Section 2 Questions: Maps and Snakes Total: /20

1. Do you think the Altaic woman is also a slave/prisoner of the Soviets? Why does she seem to have a little bit more freedom than the Lithuanians? (2)
2. Was Mother right to refuse to help the NKVD, even though doing so could have provided a lot more comfort for her and her children? Was Mrs. Arvydas wrong to become a prostitute for the NKVD in order to save her son’s life? In a paragraph, explain your opinions. (4)
3. Why do you think Lina continues to draw even though so many people have warned her to be careful? (2)
4. Why do you think the bald man with the broken leg is being kept alive by the NKVD? Give examples from the novel to support your opinion- what does he say or do, or what is said about him by others that makes you think the way you do? (2)
5. Re-read pages 171-172 from “He grabbed me by the arm.” to “Kretzsky laughed and slapped the guard on the shoulder.” Pay special attentions to the different ways Kretzsky treats Lina. Why do you think his behavior with her changes depending on who’s around? (3)
6. Why do you think they asked Lina to copy over a map and a photograph? (1)
7. Are you more like the bald man in keeping your belief (or lack of belief) in religion privately to yourself, or are you like the rest of the Lithuanians who wanted to discuss/celebrate together? Why? (2)
8. When she is being separated from Andrius, Lina thinks “How did I end up in the arms of a boy I barely knew, but knew I didn’t want to lose? I wonder what I would have thought of Andrius in Lithuania. Would I have liked him? Would he have liked me?” It seems she is considering the idea of Fate, and the fact that they may only have feelings for each other because of their common situation. Do you believe in Fate? Do you think sometimes people only fall for each other because of certain situations? Give examples or refer to Lina and Andrius. (4)