Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*The Ocean at the End of the Lane*: Introduction

Answer each question of the following questions thoughtfully. These questions are designed to get you thinking about some of the perspectives, themes, and topics addressed in this novel before you begin reading it.

1. Are adults likely to listen to what children have to say (I mean *really* listen)? Why or why not?

2. Have you ever experienced a time when an adult hid something from you because you were “too young?” Why do you think this mindset pervades our culture? Is this mindset helpful or hurtful?

3. Have you ever experienced a time when you stood up for something you believed in, even in the face of opposition? What kind of consequences could happen as a result of someone who does this in today’s world, or even in this high school?

4. If you had the option to “cut out” a moment of your life so that you forgot it ever happened, would you? Why or why not?