Chapter 3

Vocabulary

blather – empty talk; nonsense
concoction – a mixture, a blend
decrepit – rundown, falling apart
disgruntled – unhappy; irritated
enunciate – to pronounce clearly
evasive – deliberately vague; not honest or direct
immobilizing – having the ability to stop all movement or action; paralyzing
insurmountable – impossible to conquer; overwhelming
maces – heavy clubs with metal spikes on the tops
mentor – a teacher or guide
replicate – to imitate or copy
sanctioned – authorized, approved

1. What parting advice does Katniss give to her sister and mother? How will they get by without her, according to Katniss?

2. When Prim says that maybe Katniss can win the competition, Katniss thinks, “I can't win.” What are her reasons for thinking this?

3. In addition to her family, who are Katniss's three visitors? What does each of them give to her?

4. What additional advice does Gale give to Katniss about survival in the Games? What is it about this advice that makes her uneasy?
5. As Katniss looks more closely at the pin that Madge has given her, she realizes that the small golden bird with a ring around it is a mockingjay. Briefly explain what a mockingjay is. Why are such birds “something of a slap in the face to the Capitol,” according to Katniss?

6. Why is the mockingjay pin comforting to Katniss? What might mockingjays symbolize?

7. Near the end of the chapter, the reader learns that Haymitch Abernathy will be Katniss and Peeta’s mentor. What are the duties of a mentor, according to Effie Trinket? Do you think that Haymitch will be able to live up to these responsibilities? Give reasons for your opinion.