Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ #2

Read and annotate the text

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| It was almost noon. Robert Neville was in his hothouse collecting a basketful of garlic.  In the beginning it had made him sick to smell garlic in such quantity his stomach had been in  a state of constant turmoil. Now the smell was in his house and in his clothes, and sometimes he  thought it was even in his flesh.  He hardly noticed it at all.  When he had enough bulbs, he went back to the house and dumped them on the drainboard of  the sink. As he flicked the wall switch, the light flickered, then flared into normal brilliance. A  disgusted hiss passed his clenched teeth. The generator was at it again. He’d have to get out that  damned manual again and check the wiring. And, if it were too much trouble to repair, he’d  have to install a new generator.  Angrily he jerked a high- legged stool to the sink, got a knife, and sat down with an exhausted  grunt.  First, be separated the bulbs into the small, sickle-shaped cloves. Then he cut each pink,  leathery clove in half, exposing the fleshy center buds. The air thickened with the musky,  pungent odor. When it got too oppressive, he snapped on the air-conditioning unit and suction  drew away the worst of it.  Now he reached over and took an icepick from its wall rack. He punched holes in each clove  half, then strung them all together with wire until he had about twenty-five necklaces.  In the beginning he had hung these necklaces over the windows. But from a distance they’d  thrown rocks until he’d been forced to cover the broken panes with plywood scraps. Finally one  day he’d torn off the plywood and nailed up even rows of planks instead. It had made the house  a gloomy sepulcher, but it was better than having rocks come flying into his rooms in a shower  of splintered glass. And, once he had installed the three air-conditioning units, it wasn’t too bad.  A man could get used to anything if he had to. |

1. Explain the line: “A man could get used to anything if he had to.”
2. Based on this paragraph and yesterday’s reading – who are ‘they’?

Read and annotate the text

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| When he was finished stringing the garlic cloves, he went outside and nailed them over the  window boarding, taking down the old strings, which had lost most of their potent smell.  He had to go through this process twice a week. Until he found something better, it was his  first line of defense.  Defense? he often thought. For what? |

1. What is the tone of this paragraph?
2. Mark the lines that indicate Robert Neville’s state of mind in both paragraph 1 &2

Read and annotate the text

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| All afternoon he made stakes.  He lathed them out of thick doweling, band-sawed into nine- inch lengths. These be held  against the whirling emery stone until they were as sharp as daggers  It was tiresome, monotonous work, and it filled the air with hot-smelling wood dust that  settled in his pores and got into his lungs and made him cough.  Yet he never seemed to get ahead. No matter how many stakes he made, they were gone in  no time at all. Doweling was getting harder to find, too. Eventually he’d have to lathe down  rectangular lengths of wood. Won’t that be fun? he thought irritably.  It was all very depressing and it made him resolve to find a better method of disposal. But  how could he find it when they never gave him a chance to slow down and think?  As he lathed, he listened to records over the loudspeaker he’d set up in the bedroom—  Beethoven’s Third, Seventh, and Ninth symphonies. He was glad he’d learned early in life, from  his mother, to appreciate this kind of music. It helped to fill the terrible void of hours.  From four o’clock on, his gaze kept shifting to the clock on the wall. He worked in silence,  lips pressed into a hard line, a cigarette in the corner of his mouth, his eyes staring at the bit as it  gnawed away the wood and sent floury dust filtering down to the floor.  Four- fifteen. Four-thirty. It was a quarter to five.  In another hour they’d be at the house again, the filthy bastards. As soon as the light was  gone. |

1. Describe the specific duties that fill Robert Neville’s days
2. Make a case for who ‘they’ are, use details from today and yesterday’s reading
3. How long has this been Robert Neville’s routine? Make a guess based on the text.
4. How is the author building suspense? Mark specific lines from anywhere in the reading. Be prepared to defend your answer.