

# Chapter 10.

1. Pick out words and phrases Ness uses to present Conor's feelings in the opening of the chapter.

5. Explain what Ness means by the rhetorical question "He blamed Lily, because who else was there?"

10. Why do you think Harry is bullying Conor?

13. "The nightmare flashed in him, the screaming and the terror, and what happened at the end - " What kind of word is 'screaming'? What are the connotations of this?

6. Find a quote **of your own** that reveals the theme of **isolation**.

2. What is a landmine?

7. Why did Harry not hit Conor in the end?

11. Why do you think he didn't want people to know about his mother?

14. Look back over the chapter. How has Ness presented the theme of isolation? Consider how Conor is changing and how Miss Kwan and his peers treats him.

3. What is the metaphor 'Conor at the centre, surrounded by landmines that everyone was afraid to walk through' telling us?

8. 'He could feel the quiet opening up around them' – What is the significance of this line?

12. 'The nightmare flashed in him, the screaming and the terror, and what happened at the end' – What is happening here? Why has Ness included it in this chapter?

4. Pick out a word from the quote above to explore the connotations of.

9. How are we seeing Conor changing?

