

**“Crooked Letter, Crooked letter” by Tom Franklin. Chapter Six, tandem.**

**Work with a partner. Fold the sheet along the vertical line. Partner A starts.**

<b>Partner A</b>	<b>Partner B</b>
<p><b>Why hasn't Silas kept in touch with Larry?</b></p> <p><i>After the fight, Larry called him a nigger, so Silas never felt inclined to call on him, when he returned home. Larry has become ostracized after Cindy's disappearance and Silas' acquaintances in town have called him "Scary Larry" ever since.</i></p>	<p><b>Does everybody in town consider Larry a murderer?</b></p> <p><i>No, Miss Marla has taken a fancy to him. She recalls that he used to be a shy and polite boy, and she even fired a girl who worked for her for telling Larry not to show up at the diner anymore because it was a "family place".</i></p>
<p><b>What strikes Silas most when he searches Larry's shop?</b></p> <p><i>He remembers passing the place twice after his mom's funeral. Larry was standing exactly at the same spot where he is standing now. He avoided looking at him and rushed out of town very quickly taking Larry's old rifle with him.</i></p>	<p><b>Searching Larry's home and yard, what does Silas find?</b></p> <p><i>He finds evidence that someone must have been on the premises because Larry would never have smoked weed. He finds the roach end of a joint.</i></p>
<p><b>What does Silas learn about Larry's finances?</b></p> <p><i>Having no clients at the auto shop, he has sold half of his father's land to the Rutherford Lumber Company.</i></p>	<p><b>Leafing through old photographs Silas makes a stunning discovery.</b></p> <p><i>He finds several photos showing Larry as a baby in a black woman's arms. One photo shows her face: she is his mother!</i></p>
<p><b>Why did Silas and his mom move back from Chicago to the South?</b></p> <p><i>Her boyfriend Oliver got into trouble with the police. She bailed him out by selling her house. When the police turned up with a warrant, he was gone for good. They then had to leave Chicago.</i></p>	<p><b>What happens to them when they arrive south?</b></p> <p><i>Charles, the bus driver, offers to take them to a motel they can afford. Silas is suspicious - and rightly so - because he knows his mom is beautiful, and he thinks the man wants to take advantage of her. He doesn't want to be part of this, so he jumps the truck, then is mugged by thieves. Charles and his mom come after him, but can't prevent the thieves from stealing some of his and his mom's belongings.</i></p>
<p><b>In Fulsom, they are treated in a very friendly way by a white waitress. Explain.</b></p> <p><i>When Alice orders only food for Silas and makes do with a cup of coffee, she claims a grumpy customer had sent back his plate without even touching it, which she would have to dump unless Alice ate it. She also lets them sit as long as they want.</i></p>	<p><b>Where do they finally make their home?</b></p> <p><i>In an old log hunting cabin out in the sticks on Larry's father's land.</i></p>