The Jacket Reading Comprehension Questions

1. The financial situation of the family affects the narrator in the story because they are poor, which means they cannot afford certain items, such as the 'cool' leather jacket that Soto wants.

2. It was important for the narrator to have a biker jacket because it would make him more popular; he describes the sixth graders who dance like champs or stand along the wall. He wants to be a part of the cool kids.

3. The simile is “I put my hands in the pockets and flapped the jacket like a bird’s wings.” It means that Soto feels ridiculous flapping around in an oversized jacket. He seems like he is making fun of himself and how funny he looks in the jacket.

4. Other people, like Frankie T., Steve, the girls, and the teachers seem to treat him mean or treat him disrespectfully.

5. The simile is “even the girls who had been friendly blew away like loose flowers to follow the boys in neat jackets.” This shows how Soto is frustrated because of how easily the girls drifted away from him once he had an ugly jacket.

6. The narrator blames the jacket for the hard years of middle school socially (people) and financially (money).

7. The last sentence “that green ugly brother who breathed over my shoulder” helps Soto convey that he is content with the jacket and accepts to wear it.

8. Soto is a dynamic character because he changes in the story. In the beginning, he hated the jacket and blamed his grades, his family, and how people treated him on the jacket. At the end, he decides to accept that jacket.