

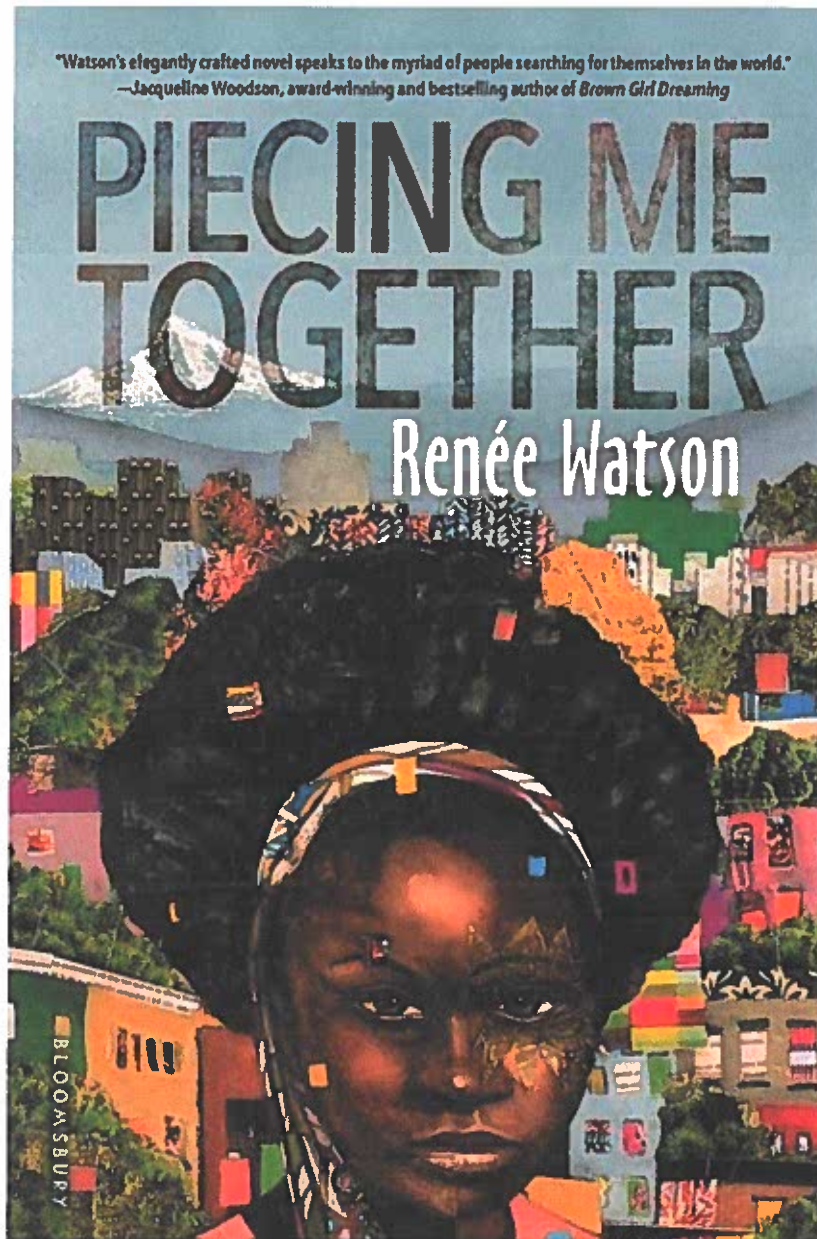


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# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE SUMMER READING PACKET

# Piecing Me Together

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



Chapter 1  
español - Spanish language

1. How can learning to speak be a way out and a way in? Make sure you explain your answer!

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Chapter 2  
tener éxito- to succeed

1. Why does the narrator think the spanish word tener éxito is ironic?

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2. Where does the narrator go to school? How does she feel about this?  
Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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3. What does Jade's mom do for a living? What did she used to do?  
How might this information contribute to the plot?

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4. What is life at St. Francis High School like for Jade? Use evidence  
from the text to support your answer.

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5. Who is Mrs. Parker? How does Jade feel about her? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

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6. How does Jade feel about Mom's promises? Why do you think she feels this way?

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Chapter 3  
dejar - to leave

1. "... like sisters who are not twins but everyone thinks they are" (9).  
Why do you think the author includes this description of the setting?

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2. Why do they call Jade's neighborhood The Villa instead of The New Columbia?

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3. How does Jade find beauty in her neighborhood? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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4. How does Jade view herself? Why do you think she has this viewpoint?

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5. How is Jade similar to her artwork? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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6. "How I am someone's answered prayer but also someone's deferred dream" (Watson 11). Why does Jade feel this way?

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7. Who are Jade's friends at school?

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Chapter 4  
querer - to want

1. Who is Glamour Girl? What do we know about her character?

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2. "There aren't any whole ones left" (Watson 15). Why did Jade receive only the pieces? Why do you think the author made this decision?

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3. After talking with Mrs. Parker, how does Jade view her differently? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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4. What opportunity does Mrs. Parker offer Jade?

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5. How does Jade feel about the opportunity? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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6. What is Jade's hobby? Why do you think the author made this her hobby? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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7. "I leave that one blank" (Watson 20). Why does Jade leave this question blank?

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## Chapter 5

promesa - promise

1. When Jade gets home, how does she view her Mom? Why does she view her this way? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Chapter 6  
historia - history

1. Who is York? Why do you think his story is included in the novel?  
Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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2. "... wondering how they must have felt having a form of freedom but no real power" (Watson 24). Does Jade feel similar to York and Sacagawea? Make sure you explain why or why not.

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Chapter 7

arte - art

1. What stands out to Jade about the signs of Lewis and Clark?

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2. Why do you think Jade discusses Lewis and Clark and Mrs. Parker in this chapter? Use evidence from the text to support your thinking.

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## Chapter 8

algo en común - something in common

1. Who is Book Girl? How is she similar to Jade?

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2. How do you think the friendship between Jade and Sam will develop in the novel?

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## Chapter 9

esperar - to wait

1. "No one ever thinks I need anything,' Same says" (Watson 31). What does Sam mean by this? What do you think she needs?

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2. What does Jade do at the meeting regarding the food? Why does she do this?

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3. Why did Sabrina start Woman to Woman?

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4. "You can give a man a fish and feed him for a day. You can teach a man to fish and feed him for a lifetime" (Watson 33). In your own words, explain what this means. Why is this statement brought up during the meeting?

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5. What happens at Jade's first Woman to Woman meeting?

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6. What happened in E.J.'s past? Why do you think the author mentions this piece of history at this moment?

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Why or why not?

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Chapter 10  
presenter - to introduce

1. Who shows up at Jade's house? How does Jade feel about this?

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2. Do you think Jade was too hard on Maxine? Why or why not?

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character? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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4. How does Jade feel when Maxine calls her a Mentee? Why do you think she feels this way?

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5. What do Maxine and Jade have in common? What are their differences? Use evidence from the text to support any inferences.

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6. How does E.J. know Maxine? Why does this connection make Jade doubt Maxine as a mentor? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Chapter 11

buenos días - good morning

1. Why is Jade proud of herself when she is on her way to school?

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Chapter 12  
amiga - female friend

1. Why did Jade's mom not ask any questions about her new friend?

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2. Who does Sam live with? Why does Jade not ask any questions about this information?

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4. "She says people who don't own their homes don't have any real power" (Watson 53). How can this be true?

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5. Who calls Sam when Jade is at her house? What do you notice about their conversation?

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6. Instead of studying Sam and Jade get to know about each other. What new information do we discover about the girls?

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Chapter 13  
hija - daughter

1. Why do you think Maxine keeps canceling on Jade?

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2. “And I don’t appreciate her not asking me. Tell her you can’t go” (Watson 60). Why do you think Jade’s mom is acting this way? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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4. Summarize Mom’s apology to Maxine at the end of the chapter. Why was she so hard on Maxine? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Chapter 14

feliz cumpleaños - happy birthday

1. Why does Jade get upset with E.J.?

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2. What happened to Jade's birthday meal with Lee Lee and Sam?

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Chapter 15  
el pelo- hair

1. Why does the author include this chapter about Jade's hair?

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Chapter 16  
regalo - gift

1. Why did Sam not ride the bus to school? What do her actions say about her character?

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Chapter 17  
mi padre - my father

1. What did Jade's dad give her for her birthday?

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2. Why does Jade want to be able to read and write in many languages?

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Chapter 18

fotografiar - photograph

1. On the way home, why does Jade take pictures of the objects? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Chapter 19  
libros - books

1. Why does Maxine take Jade to the bookstore?

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2. What does Jade find interesting about Mickalene Thomas's artwork?  
Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Write your answer to question 1 here.

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Chapter 20  
doce - twelve

1. Why are were twelve different objects listed in this chapter? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Chapter 21

mujer a mujer - woman to woman

1. What is the topic for the night's meeting? How does Jade feel about this topic? Use evidence to support your answer.

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3. "But I know that doesn't mean those dreams will come true" (Watson 85). Why is Jade so pessimistic when it comes to having dreams?

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4. "And this makes me wonder if a black girl's life is only about being stitched together and coming undone, being stitched together and coming undone" Watson 86). Why does Jade have these thoughts? What do her thoughts relate to?

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Chapter 22

almorzar - to have lunch

1. Summarize what happens between Jade and Kennedy?

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Chapter 23  
reír - to laugh

1. How does Kennedy act at lunch? Why does she act this way?

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2. "They don't know why we're laughing so hard. Don't understand our joy" (Watson 91). Why are Jade and Sam so happy?

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Chapter 24

tener hambre - to be hungry

1. What happens with the group of boys at Dairy Queen?

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2. Why do you think the boys act the way they do at Dairy Queen?

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Chapter 25

llamar - to name

1. "... the names he could have called me emerge" (Watson 96). Based on the five words, how does Jade view herself? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Chapter 26

el barrio - the neighborhood

1. What does Lee Lee remind Jade about when she was young?

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2. What is similar and different between Lee Lee and Jade's schools?  
Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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Chapter 27  
agradecido - thankful

1. What do Jade and her mom do each Thanksgiving? Why do they do this? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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2. "All of a sudden my food doesn't taste as good as before" (Watson 105). Why is there such a change?

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Chapter 28

las diferencias - differences

1. What happens when Maxine and Jade go to the museum?

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2. "I want to tell her that I think she should have called Jon back later" (Watson 111). Do you think Jade should tell Maxine how she is feeling? Explain your thinking.

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4. "Maxine goes on talking, not even realizing she's so oblivious" (Watson 113). Do you think Maxine knows she upset Jade? Explain your thinking.

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5. Why did Maxine want to become a mentor?

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6. "How I'm not sure why Mrs. Parker thought we'd be a good pair"  
(Watson 115). Why do you think Maxine and Jade were paired up?

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## Chapter 29

### la llorona - the weeping woman

1. What happens to Jade when she is riding the bus? Why do you think this was added to the plot?

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2. What mural did Jade see at the end of the chapter?

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Chapter 30

feliz navidad - Merry Christmas

1. What happened at Lee Lee's art show? How does she view the situation? Why does she view it this way?

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2. What are the girls doing with old cards?

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Chapter 31

víspera de Año Nuevo - New Year's Eve

1. What is Jade's resolution? Do you think she will be able to keep her resolution? Why or why not?

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