

# The City of Ember

by Jeanne DuPrau

## Writing Instructions

Lina finds a paper that she calls "The Instructions". The Instructions include a numbered list of directions for how to do something. Think of something that you know how to do very well, for example, making a peanut butter sandwich, playing soccer, or riding a horse. Write a set of instructions using a numbered list. Assume that you are writing these instructions for someone who has no experience with the skill that you are explaining.

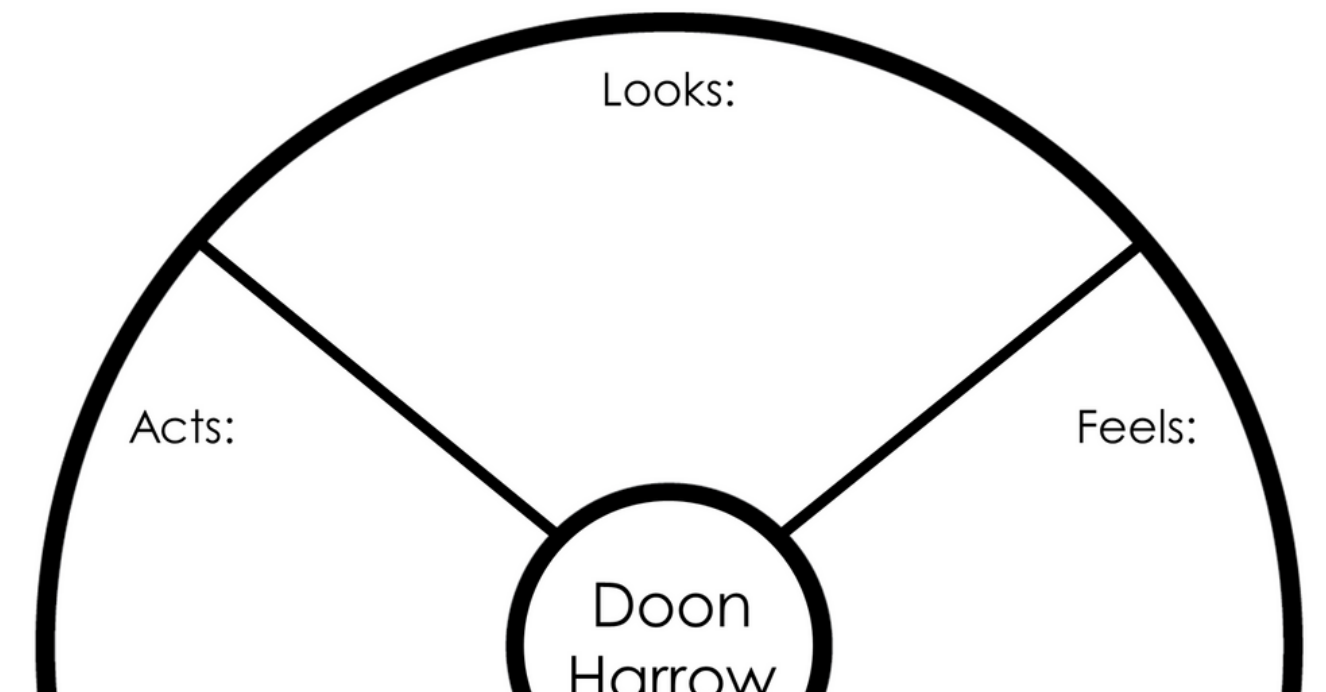
1.   
↓
2.   
↓
3.   
↓

## Check for Understanding - Chapters 7 and 8

1. In your opinion and judging by Lina's description, what kind of writing does she use? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Explain what the Believers believe. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did Doon visit the Library? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Doon comes across a book of definitions called "Mysterious Words of t... what year do you think this book was written? \_\_\_\_\_

## Attribute Web: Doon Harrow

Begin adding information to this character attribute web for Doon. As you continue reading, fill in additional information.

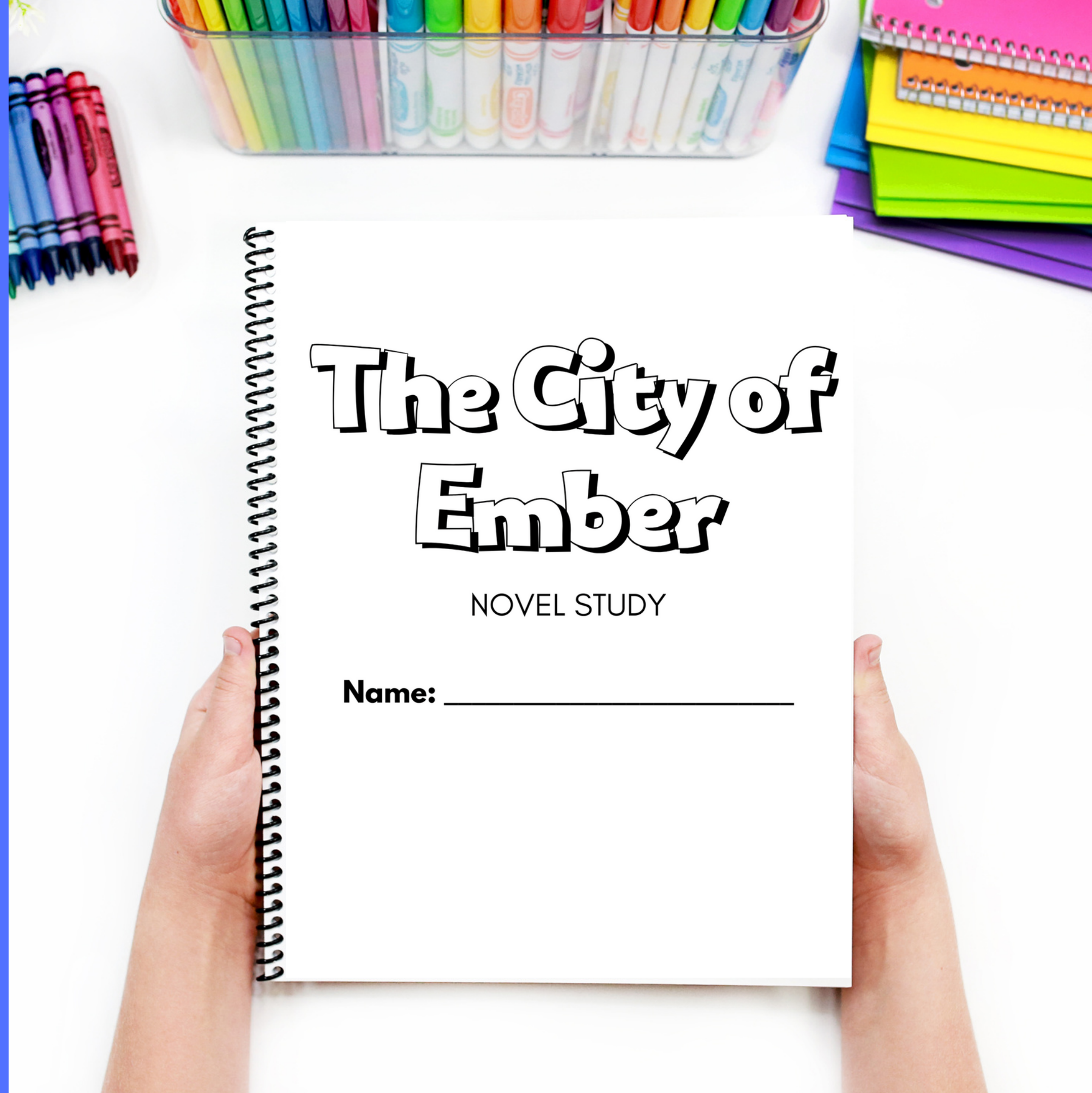


# NOVEL STUDY

SHELLEY GRAY

This novel study is the perfect companion to *The City of Ember* by Jeanne DuPrau.

Pick and choose the pages that support your classroom goals, or create student booklets with all the activities and have students work through them as they read.



In this novel study, you'll find end-of-chapter comprehension questions that will help students build their understanding as they read. They'll also make predictions and make important connections.

Use these as written activities or for oral discussion.



**Check for Understanding - Chapters 1 and 2**

1. What is "assignment day"? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Who are the two main characters in this book? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did Doon want to trade jobs with Lina? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Describe the job of "messenger." \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What message did Lina deliver to the mayor? What do you think it means? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Predict** - Why does Doon's father tell him that when anger is the boss "you get unintended consequences." Explain what this means. Then make a connection between this phrase and your own life experiences. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Draw a picture of** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Check for Understanding - Chapters 3 and 4**

1. Why is Doon discouraged after his first day in the Pipeworks? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Describe Doon's bug observation book. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Lina wonders if the job of trash sifter has been created because Ember is running out of everything. What do you think? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. What are the Unknown Regions? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. If you were a resident in the City of Ember, would you try to explore the Unknown Regions? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Predict** - Who are the Builders?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**Check for Understanding - Chapters 5 and 6**

1. What do you think the item is that Granny is looking for? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. What do you think Lina means when she thinks that the colored pencils "were not quite as beautiful as they had been" on page 83. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why had fear settled over the city? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Doon's father tells him that when anger is the boss "you get unintended consequences." Explain what this means. Then make a connection between this phrase and your own life experiences. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Check for Understanding - Chapters 7 and 8**

1. In your opinion and judging by Lina's description, what kind of writing did the Builders use? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Explain what the Believers believe. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why did Doon visit the Library? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Doon comes across a book of definitions called "Mysterious Words of the Past." In what year do you think this book was written? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Predict** - Do you think Doon will be interested in the writing that Lina found?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Draw a picture of your favorite scene from this chapter.**

You'll also find a wide variety of engaging activities to reinforce other skills such as cause and effect, punctuation, character attributes, transition words, and more!



### Descriptive Paragraph

Reread the description of Lina's apartment on page 24. Pay close attention to the detail and adjectives that the author uses in the description. Choose a room from your house, such as your bedroom or the kitchen. First draw a rough sketch of the room in ten minutes or less. Then write a descriptive paragraph to describe what the room looks like. Remember to include detail and vivid describing words.

My Sketch

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### Quotation Marks

Quotation marks are punctuation marks that are placed around what people say.

*Example:* Dad said, "Can I please see your project?"  
"I'm busy right now," replied Tristen.

**Helpful trick - Beginning quotation marks look like "66" and ending quotation marks look like "99".**

Add quotation marks to the following passages from Chapters 17 and 18. Then check the page number to see if you are correct.

1. *All right, said Clary. I can keep secrets.*  
(Check line 16 on page 167 for the answer.)
2. *I have something exciting to tell you, Lina said breathlessly.*  
(Check lines 13-14 on page 171 for the answer.)
3. *So in answer to his father's question, he simply said, No, Father, I'm not.*  
(Check lines 25-26 on page 176 for the answer.)
4. *Down at the west end of the river. Near where it goes into that great green bay, he saw the secret entrance to the city. He paused, trying to catch his breath. And listen, he said, go there right now.*  
(Check lines 13-16 on page 180 for the answer.)
5. *You're almost here! called Doon. His voice came from right below her. There's a ledge-one more rung and you'll feel it.*  
(Check lines 24-26 on page 183 for the answer.)
6. *Yes! Doon yelled back. I see it!*  
(Check line 17 on page 184 for the answer.)
7. *Doon was still studying the paper. It says 'right.' We should look to the right of the door.*  
(Check lines 17-18 on page 185 for the answer.)

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### Sequencing and Transition Words

Here is a list of transition words to use when retelling the events of a story.

first	to begin with	in the morning	also
finally	lastly	second	third
next	now	later	at noon
after that	then	first of all	

Use some of these transition words to retell the events of Chapter 17 and 18.

### Nouns - People, Places and Things

A noun is a person, place or thing. Find at least 10 nouns in Chapters 15 and 16 of *The City of Ember*.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Proper nouns are nouns that name a specific person, place or thing. They always start with a capital letter.

*Examples: John, Los Angeles, December, Thanksgiving Day*

Common nouns do not name a specific person, place or thing. They do not start with a capital letter unless they are at the beginning of a sentence.

*Examples: boy, city, month, holiday*

Sort the nouns that you wrote into the correct category.

Common nouns

Proper nouns

Take the guesswork out of planning your next literature unit with this complete, comprehensive novel study!

