



The Chamber

ADVANCED

6

Answers to book activities

- Open answer
- a Open answers
b patio terrorist, member federal
- 3-5 Open answers
- a inmate, jumpsuit
b colonel, superintendent
c cyanide, lethal
d confidential
e briefcase
f supreme, pardon
- a Sergeant Packer is talking about the fact that Sam's execution date has just been set.
b Sam is telling Adam that he wants no more involvement with the Jewish law firm of Kravitz and Bane.
c Prison superintendent Naifeh is telling his assistant that he does not want to organize Sam's execution.
d Lee is telling Adam that she did not enjoy living life as a rich man's wife.
e Adam has a new idea for stopping Sam's execution.
- Open answer
- a The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals
b The Mississippi Supreme Court
c The United States Supreme Court
d The federal district court
- a True
b False
c True
d True
e True
- a It was the letter that Eddie wrote to his son before he killed himself. It told Adam what to do when he discovered the body. Adam's whole life has been affected by this.
b The tree was Lee's favorite hiding place when she was a child. She was in the tree when she saw Sam shoot Joe Lincoln.
c The photograph was of a lynching of a young black man. Sam and other members of the Cayhall family were involved and shown in the picture.
- 12-13 Open answers
- A chaplain is a Christian minister attached to an organization or establishment such as a prison. A psychiatrist is a person who is medically qualified to treat illnesses of the mind.
- a Wedge has come to see Sam to make sure he does not talk about him and his part in the bombings.
b The Chaplain does not agree with the death penalty.
c Sam the rabbit is executed in the gas chamber, to make sure that it is working.
d Sam asks Donnie to buy him some new clothes for the execution.
- 16-17 Open answers
- ability
- 19-25 Open answers

Answers to Factsheet activities

Communicative activities

Open answers

Student's activities

Activities before reading the book

- (a) lawyer and writer
(b) He was a Congressman
(c) The Firm
(d) six
(e) Virginia and Mississippi
- Open answers

Activities while reading the book

Chapter 1

- In brief: A trial was held in Nettles County in front of an all-white jury. The jury could not agree and the trial was abandoned. The second trial was held six months later, again with an all-white jury, but Marvin Kramer was there. The trial was again abandoned without a verdict.

Time passed. By the late 1970s, times had changed. Blacks could vote and go to school with white children. David McAllister had become the District Attorney in Greenville. Jeremiah Dogan did a deal with the government to give evidence against Sam. The trial began in February 1981, and Sam was found guilty. He was sentenced to death.

- (a) Wedge used a 15-minute fuse.
(b) Marvin Kramer was found 20 minutes after the bomb exploded.
(c) The second trial was held 6 months after the first trial.
(d) The tax authorities produced 86 charges against Jeremiah Dogan, which could lead to 28 years in prison
(e) Wedge was 22 years old.
(f) There were only 3 men involved in the Kramer bombing.
(g) When Wedge and Cayhall left Greenville they drove along Highway 82.
(h) It all began with a phone call on April 17 1967.
(i) David McAllister was 27 years old when he was elected as District Attorney in Greenville.

Chapter 2

- (a) Because Adam has found out all he can about Sam by studying the documents relating to Sam's case, newspaper and television reports about Sam, and notes from law school.
(b) He is a full-time partner in Kravitz and Bane. He works for clients who cannot afford to pay.
(c) Because he has decided to represent himself, and will be dead with or without a lawyer.
(d) Eddie Cayhall. He changed it to Eddie Hall.
(e) His Aunt Lee, (Sam's daughter, Eddie's sister).
(f) Because he has killed so many people.

Chapter 3

- Adam talks weakly ...steps unsteadily from his car ...his stomach churns ...and he bites his fingernails.
- (a) Maximum Security Unit - also known as death row.
(b) August 8th - a date set by the Mississippi Supreme Court.
(c) We don't know. Possibly when he finds out that Adam was born in Memphis in 1964. He recognizes him by his voice.
(d) About the case, and about his family.
(e) Because they do no criminal work, and don't want any publicity that might connect them to the Cayhall case and ruin their reputation.

Chapter 4

- (a) The inmates of MSU spend twenty three hours alone in their cell.
(b) Sam's cell is less than ninety feet from the gas chamber.
(c) Sam's most valuable possession is a collection of law books.
(d) George Nugent is pleased to take part in the execution of Sam.
(e) Naifeh is relieved at being able to let Nugent handle the execution.
(f) Sam is certain that the governor won't save him at the last minute.
(g) Sam does not want to select Adam as one of his witnesses at the execution, so that he can't be present.
(h) Sam does not tell Adam the whole truth about the Kramer bombing.

Chapter 5

Open answers. Possible examples include Auburn House, Lee's life, Rollie Wedge's house, the prison setting, David McAllister - according to Sam.

Chapter 6

- (a)(iii), (b)(i), (c)(v), (d)(iv), (e)(ii)
- Open answers, including: because Eddie killed himself when Sam's trial ended, and because Eddie didn't hold Sam's racist views and was hurt by them.

Chapter 7

- Open answers, but possible answer: these words are ironic and the speaker means the

opposite to what he or she says. This has the effect of exaggerating the fact that the opposite is true.

- He follows Adam into the office building and stands behind him while he enters the code to the door to his offices. He then goes to Lee's house and breaks in. The alarm goes off and the security guard leaves the gatehouse and walks to Mrs Booth's unit. Rollie then goes into the gatehouse and takes a set of keys for Lee's house, along with a card on which were the alarm code and instructions.

Chapter 8

- (a) Judge Slattery to Adam about his appeal to rule against the use of the gas chamber.
(b) Sam to Adam about Adam talking to David McAllister.
(c) Adam to Sam about attacking the lawyer who represented him at the last trial.
(d) Lee to Adam about Sam being involved in the lynching of a black boy by the Ku Klux Klan.
(e) Adam to Judge Robichaux about methods of execution.
(f) Adam to Justice McNeely about why Mississippi switched execution methods from the gas chamber to lethal injection.

Chapter 9

- (c), (g), (b), (e), (d), (f), (a).

Chapter 10

- (a) Nugent gets the chamber painted, practices the execution on Sam the rabbit, and tells the guards and prison staff not to talk to the media unless he approves it.
(b) A psychiatrist. He is useful to Adam because he is willing to lie for money.
(c) Open answers
(d) To ask McAllister for a closed hearing. McAllister refuses a hearing unless Sam tells who helped him with the Kramer bombing.
(e) To deliver letters apologizing to the families of people he killed.

- Open answers, but possible answer: to add to the tension by emphasizing that Sam's death by execution would be a painful and traumatic experience to go through. The reader can imagine all the stages of the execution and death.

Chapter 11

- (a) freedom, (b) month, (c) proud, (d) hatred, life, (e) Ralph Griffin, Adam (f) funeral, (g) member

Chapter 12

- (a) false (the claim was for ineffective representation), (b) true, (c) true, (d) false (he decides he can't be trusted) (e) false (he acts dishonestly - he lies), (f) true, (g) false (Adam calls E Garner Goodman as a witness)

Chapter 13

- Open answers
- Because we have already been given detailed descriptions of two previous deaths in the gas chamber, those of Teddy Meeks and Maynard Tole (pages 34-6).
- Open answers

Chapter 14

- (a) She has been in treatment for her drinking problem
(b) To get rid of all the evil ghosts and spirits
(c) Adam is going to work as a lawyer for people on death row
- Possible answer: because we think that she may have been murdered by Rollie Wedge, which adds to the tension of the story. Grisham keeps the tension up by putting into the story many different possibilities for the ending. Nothing is certain, many things could happen, right up to the end.
- Open answers

Activities after reading the book

- (a) Open answers
(b) It shows that Sam cared about his family and at the end was unselfish.

