**Iqbal Novel Study Name: Samantha Macabeo**

**Quotable Passages Date: 1/31/12**

**TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15 marks**

There are many quotable passages from chapter 7 in *Iqbal*. Below are four important quotes.

**You must respond critically to Passage 1 and Passage 4. Then choose either Passage 2 OR 3 to reflect on**.

In your response, consider commenting on some of the following: special meaning, connection to a character’s thoughts and feelings, or why this quote makes you think and want to know more.

You can write your response directly beneath the passage.

**\* PASSAGE 1**

**“It means that this kind of life isn’t right. We should return to our families; we shouldn’t be chained to our looms and forced to work like slaves.” Page 50**

RESPONSE:

Iqbal is saying that the life these children have isn’t right. They shouldn’t be chained to their looms and forced to work in a unsanitary factory. The children go behind a dirty curtain to do their business. They work in a factory where it’s very hot in the summer and very cold in the winter. These children sleep on the floor beside their looms. When Iqbal said “We should return to our families.” The children should be allowed to go back to their families, where they receive love, food, clothing, protection. These children shouldn’t be treated as pets/animals. In our societies we only chain pets or animals not children. The children in the factory shouldn’t be worked to the bone like slaves. These children deserve a right to freedom, to play. Not be forced to work in an unsanitary carpet factory.

**PASSAGE 2**

**‘There was a precise rule among us: *Never* talk about the future. Not a single one of us dared to say, “next summer,” or “in a year,” or, “when I’m grown up.” Oh yes, we talked about things we liked to do, and we talked about the day our debt would be cancelled. We talked that hope into the ground. But nobody really believed it. It was sort of litany, a way to feel good. Otherwise what was left to us?’ Page 53**

**PASSAGE 3**

**“Fatima,” he said in a low voice, “next spring you and I are going to fly a kite. Remember that, whatever happens.” Page 54**

RESPONSE: PASSAGE 2

Fatima is saying that all the children in the factory don’t talk about the future. It’s too painful to talk about because the only future these children have will be to work in the carpet factory. The children may have thought about what they might be doing next summer, or what they’ll do when they grow up but the truth that they’ve come to realize is that they’ll be stuck in that factory, making carpets. I guess the reason why nobody believed that the day their debt is cancelled was because what was there to believe in? Fatima has been working the factory for three years and yet her debt hasn’t been cancelled. The children only talk about it because it makes them believe that there is hope that one day they might be freed from this life and be able to go to their families.

**\* Chapter 8 - PASSAGE 4**

**‘Before Iqbal’s arrival I had been resigned to my life. I couldn’t even imagine a different one. Iqbal had sown the seeds of hope in all of us.’ Page 62**

RESPONSE:

Fatima is saying that before Iqbal had arrived she thought of her life as always being the same. Always working at the carpet factory. Now that Iqbal has come along in her life she has hope. Fatima and all the other children have hope because of what Iqbal has done. Iqbal told all the children that this sort of life isn’t right, that they shouldn’t be forced to work. Because of Iqbal they have hope that one day they’ll be free from this life.