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

**Prologue: The Woman in the Photograph**

1. The author uses several similes to describe cells. What simile does she use to describe

the way a cell looks? What simile does she use to explain the functions of the different parts of a cell? What do these similes suggest about biology?

1. What is mitosis? What beneficial biological processes involve mitosis?
2. What simile does Donald Defler use to describe mitosis?
3. What happens when there is a mistake during the process of mitosis?
4. According to Defler, how important was the discovery of HeLa cells?
5. As a high school student, Skloot began researching HeLa cells to find out more about Henrietta Lacks. Examine pages 5 and 6 and write down each step that Skloot took to begin her research.

**Chapter One: The Exam**

1. How long did Henrietta wait between first telling her girlfriends that “something didn’t feel right” and going to the doctor?
2. Why does Sadie think Henrietta hesitated before seeing the doctor?
3. What did Henrietta’s first doctor assume the source of the lump on Henrietta’s cervix was? What stereotype or bias might this assumption be based upon?
4. Why did David Lacks take Henrietta to the public wards at Johns Hopkins instead of a closer hospital?
5. Explain what the Jim Crow laws were.
6. Review the notes on Henrietta’s medical history found on page 16. Based on the objective details in her medical chart, what can you infer about Henrietta’s life and personality?
7. Based on her medical chart, who would you describe Henrietta’s feelings about doctors?
8. What did Howard Jones find “interesting” about Henrietta’s medical history? What does this finding suggest about Henrietta’s cancer?