The Pelican Brief

Book key

1  a client, companion, homosexual, liberal
   b brief, Constitution
   c CIA, firm, Supreme Court

2  a It is the highest court of law in the United States with nine judges.
   b It is the investigative branch of the US Department of Justice.
   c He was a lawyer with his own law firm and a representative in government for the state of Mississippi.

3  Open answers

4  a 2  b 1  c 7  d 10  e 5  f 3  g 9  h 4
   i 6  j 8

5  a He had received three million dollars and he was expecting to get four million more before he committed the murders. He was expecting another three million in his bank the day after the murders. The total was 10 million dollars.
   b Rosenberg refused to have FBI guards in his own home. He was very old and not afraid of death. Jensen wanted to be able to come and go as he pleased. He did not want the guards to know that he was a homosexual. Both judges allowed the guards to wait outside but they could enter the house only when they had permission.
   c Khamel kills Rosenberg’s male nurse, Rosenberg, and Ferguson with three bullets to each man’s head. He breaks Jensen’s neck with a rope.
   d Rosenberg was a proud liberal who defended the Indians, the homosexuals, the poor, the blacks, the Mexicans, and the Puerto Ricans. Jensen was not particularly liberal, except in cases involving homosexuals and those where industry threatened the environment.
   e For the President, their murders give him an opportunity to make a reassuring speech to the nation and increase his popularity. As well, he can now choose two new people for the Supreme Court, which will be good for him and the Republican Party. Maybe he will be able to blame Voyles for the deaths and also get a new person in charge of the FBI.

6  a Luke (not his real name) is waiting with a stolen van for Sam (Khamel), who is arriving by boat at midnight. Luke is not sure if he has met Khamel before but he has heard of him. Luke drives Khamel to a hotel in Washington, DC. They do not speak to each other.
   b The US President appoints a person to the Supreme Court when a seat becomes empty due either to retirement or death. Republican Presidents tend to appoint Republicans and Democrat Presidents tend to appoint Democrats.
   c The President works closely with Coal who is the chief of staff. They are hoping to point the finger of blame on the FBI and get rid of Voyles. Voyles knows that the President and Coal don’t like him and can make him look bad.

7  a He is a good law teacher at Tulane University. He is forty-five but seems younger. He likes to drink and drive around in his Porsche. We have a special relationship.
   b He is an old friend from law school. We were the only ones who decided against going into private practice. He likes women, especially younger women. He enjoys eating in restaurants and going out for drinks.

8–9  Open answers

10  a Voyles  b Darby  c Sarge  d Verheek  e Garcia  f Voyles  g Republicans

11  a Yes  b Yes  c No  d Yes  e No

12  a Darby’s report names a person who may have been responsible for the death of the judges. It is someone who gave a lot of money to the President’s party. Although the brief is considered implausible, Voyles likes it. It may help him get revenge on Coal and the President.
   b Sarge works in the White House and leaks information to Gray Grantham of the Washington Post.
   c The Washington Post prints stories that Grantham gets from Sarge.
   d Garcia is a lawyer and he thinks he knows who is responsible for killing the judges. He wants to give information to the newspaper but he is afraid.
   e Thomas’s car is blown up because somebody who has read the Pelican Brief wants to kill Darby. Thomas’s friend Gavin works for the FBI so maybe he can help Darby.

13–15  Open answers
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16 a  b  c 2  d 4  e 3  f 6
17 a b d
18 b d e
19 a Gavis is shocked and angry. His best friend died because of that brief. He knows that Darby's life is in danger because of the brief too. He thinks that the FBI should take it seriously.
b He knows it is Garcia because he receives three rings on the phone from Grantham. Grantham is in his office and is answering Garcia's call.
c Sarge gives Grantham a copy of a White House document naming Khamel as the probable killer of Rosenberg and Jensen. Now Grantham can write the story for the newspaper.
d Darby sends Alice there to look for files on her computer and some diskettes with the Pelican Brief on them. They are missing, which means somebody has been there looking for information.
20 a Darby is in an empty room on the third floor of a student building that looks out over the university church where Thomas's funeral is being held.
b Khamel is in a hotel room in New Orleans.
c Gavin has just come out of the shower in a New Orleans hotel.
21 He knows they plan to meet at Frenchman's Bend at midday. He knows that Gavin will be wearing a black shirt and will be carrying a newspaper.
22 Open answers
23 a 3  b 1  c 2  d 1  e 3
24 a Republican  b environmental  c Watergate
d Garcia  e Darby
25 a Darby says this to Gray because she knows that the people involved in the judges' deaths will want to kill Gray if he knows who is doing the killing.
b Khamel says this to Darby. He wants her to think that he is Gavin Verheck.
c Voyles says this to Lewis. His recording of the President proves that the President tried to stop the FBI's investigation of the brief.
d Darby says this to Gray over the telephone. She wants Gray to meet her and hear her full story.
26 Open answers
27 Gray knows that Garcia is a lawyer. He may be from one of the two Washington law firms that does work for Mattiece.
28 Open answers
29 a T  b F  c T  d T  e T  f T  g T  h F  i F
30 a He is going to find Mattiece and persuade him to trust him. Then Mattiece will tell Barr his secrets and Barr will advise him to disappear.
b She tells Gray that she saw a man leave his hotel room ten minutes earlier.
c Curtis D. Morgan is the real name of Garcia. He has information about the death of the judges.
31 She phones the Georgetown law school, pretending to work for White and Blazevich. She gets the names of students who had worked at the law firm and might recognize Garcia's face in a photo. One of the students gives her Garcia's real surname (Morgan).
32–33 Open answers
34 a Victor Mattiece  b Larry  c Curtis D. Morgan
d Edwin Sneller  e Mrs Morgan  f Marty Velmano
g Fletcher Coal  h Khamel
35 a Barr made the mistake of going alone to Mattiece's house and asking if the Pelican Brief is true. Result: He was murdered.
b Darby's mistake was moving money from her bank in New Orleans to Grantham's bank in Washington. Result: Sneller knew where to find her.
c Morgan's mistake was to pick up a note from Wakefield's desk together with some files. Result: Wakefield suspected Morgan of knowing about Mattiece and the death of the judges.
d Velmano wrote the note to Wakefield about Rosenberg and Jensen. Result: Grantham read the note and knew who killed the judges.
e Coal's mistake was to make Voyles his enemy. Result: Voyles told the newspaper about Coal's involvement in the investigation.
36 a Wakefield kills himself because he will not be able to hide and he does not want to go to prison.
b Gray leaves Washington. After the first story appeared, he was writing a lot of stories for the newspaper and working eighteen hours a day. He got tired of it and he wanted to see Darby.
c Coal's life in politics is finished because he took the blame for stopping the investigation.
d Velmano is no longer working and he is hiding, probably somewhere in Europe.
e Darby is living in the Virgin Islands and she is living a healthy, restful life. Gray has come to stay with her and they plan to take life a month at a time.
37–47 Open answers
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Discussion activities key
1–26 Open answers

Activity worksheets key
1  a law  b government  c practice  d writing  
   e full-time  f environment  g justice
2  a X (Khamel will kill for money.)
   b ✓
   c X (They refuse to have guards in their houses.)
   d X (They are both liberal towards certain groups.)
   e ✓
   f X (They feel it can help them.)
   g ✓
3  a gave him
   b worthless
   c someone in the FBI
   d reporter
   e lawyer
   f a false name
   g paid a lot of money
   h the document that Darby Shaw had written
   i bomb
   j hide

4  a 2  b 4  c 1  d 3
5  a Darby knows that people want to find out about
   the Pelican Brief and have been in her apartment.
   b Darby knows that someone is trying to find her.
   c She can change her clothes and hair, but she cannot
   change her legs. The man recognizes them.
   d People know he is looking for Darby and might
   contact her.
   e Khamel hears the information that is exchanged
   between Darby and Gavin.
6  a 6  b 2  c 9  d 1  e 4  f 7  g 3  h 8  i 5
7  a 2  b 1  c 2  d 2  e 1  f 2  g 2
8  a 2  b 3  c 5  d 7  e 6  f 1  g 4
9  a 5  b 3  c 2  d 7  e 4  f 1  g 6

Progress test key
1  a 5  b 3  c 2  d 6  e 1  f 4
2  a 4  b 8  c 5  d 3  e 2  f 1  g 6  h 7
3  a YES  b NO  c YES  d NO  e NO  f YES
4  a 6  b 1  c 2  d 5  e 4  f 3
5  a White House  b talk to him  c environment
   d another man
6  a 3  b 5  c 4  d 7  e 1  f 6  g 2