HBH IX The Flyboy key

1. What do the family like about life in Horse mesa?	It is a very small place near Phoenix, a flyspeck, built for the men who worked at the Horse Mesa Dam. The kids had never liked city life, but since the local school only goes through 8th grade, they are sent to boarding school, Lily finds a job as a teacher. Life becomes tranquil, people depend on one another. They are mostly concerned with the weather, their daily routine of hunting, fishing.
2. What does Lily do in (for) local politics?	She puts pressure on politicians to make them keep to their campaign promises, even threatens one of them to go public. She makes sure everybody in Horse Mesa registers to vote and defends the ballots with her revolver.
3. What becomes of her son?	He drops out of high school, gets married and becomes a police officer.
4. How does it show that she feels differently about her daughter? In what way does she treat her daughter differently?	She is more concerned about her career and her choice of a husband. She thinks she can impose her will on her and teach her a lesson, maybe because of her own bad experience with her “crumb bum” first husband. She wants her to get married to an “anchor”, a solid man.
5. How does Rex Walls attract Rosemary’s attention?	She dived off the cliffs into the water and Rex was so impressed that he followed her although he was not a good swimmer and told her he would marry her.
6. What does Lily make of him initially?	He is either a “leader “or a “con artist”. She can see through Rex’ charming way of ingratiating himself with Rosemary.
7. What does the reader learn about Rex?	He is a pilot stationed at the nearby Air Force Base.
8. What other examples are there of Rex’ unstable and, at the same time, fascinating personality?	He is a heavy drinker, drives even when he is drunk, gets into a fight over Rosemary at a pub, hangs up one of her paintings at the local art museum, he is willing to take all kinds of risks learning how to ride a horse. He takes Lily up in a military plane, shows off with dangerous loops.
9. What lesson does Lily learn regarding the upbringing of Rosemary?	She realizes that she cannot make Rosemary live up to her expectations, she thinks she has “failed”.”So this is a lesson for me, then?” (p.197 ll. 27) She has always considered herself a successful teacher and with her daughter she seems to have no control.
10. What last effort does she make to nudge Rosemary into the “right” direction?	She pays for a big traditional wedding, but from the onset it becomes clear that Rosemary is “in for a ride”. The newlyweds take off like “half-broke” horses.