In the story “Veronica’s Pack,” author Lauren Magaziner often describes Veronica using figurative language. That means her words have a meaning other than what they actually say on the page. Sometimes you have to think about what she means. This activity will help you do that.

**Directions:** Read each line from the story below. Think about what each one means. Then answer the questions that follow.

1. “Like a deer in headlights.” (p. 11)
   - Deer are known for stopping suddenly when they see car headlights coming toward them. What does the comparison tell you about how Veronica feels and acts in this moment? 

   ________________________________________________________________

   Find at least one other sentence in the same paragraph that helps you understand what the phrase “deer in headlights” means. Write it here.

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2. “Being quiet and shy all her life, she had never charged into battle like this before.” (p. 13)
   - What do the words charge and battle tell you about Veronica’s attitude toward what she is about to do?

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3. “She was freezing up again, like a block of ice.” (p. 14)
   - How does comparing Veronica to a block of ice help you understand her reaction?

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4. “She started to shrink into her sweatshirt.” (p. 14)
   - Veronica isn’t really shrinking! What does this line tell you about how she feels?

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