

APPENDIX 1: Analysis Worksheet – *Running on the Cracks*

Plot:

1. Exposition (beginning):
 - a. Why has Leo decided to go to Glasgow and why is she hiding?
 - b. How do Leo and Finlay first meet?
 - c. Who befriends Leo and takes her home?
 - d. How does Finlay find Leo? What is the link between them?
2. What is the central conflict in the story? Who is involved? Are there any other conflicts?
3. Referring to your plot summary, which 10-15 events do you consider the most important in moving the plot forward?
4. What event do you think marks the climax in the plot development?
5. Are you satisfied with the resolution (ending) of the story?

Character:

1. How would you describe Loe? Finlay? Mary? Write 3-5 sentences describing each based on:
 - a. how they are described
 - b. what they say and do
 - c. what others say about them.
2. Who is the protagonist in the story and who is the antagonist?
3. How would you describe the family relationships in the story?
4. Who do you think would be a good friend and why?

Narrative strategies:

1. Point of view: Some parts of the story are told by a first-person narrator and others are told by a third-person narrator. At the same time, there are three voices. Whose voices are these and which is the first-person narrator?
2. Structure:
 - a. There are several flashbacks. Which do you consider the most important and why?
 - b. There is also a lot of foreshadowing, for example in the first paragraph. Can you find another example?
 - c. There are texts belonging to several different genre included in the story. Which are these?
3. Language: How does the language contribute to the mood of suspense? Look at the verbs and adjectives, and at the length of the sentences.
4. Setting: How does the setting contribute to this story?
5. Imagery: Can you identify any symbols in the story?

Themes:

1. There are several themes in this story. List three or four. Which do you consider the most important?
2. How is this theme developed?
3. Are these themes of general importance to teenagers today? Why / Why not?