Double Reverse by Fred Bowen
Writing Prompts/Discussion Questions
Aligned with Common Core Reading Standards

Directions: Use details from the text to support ALL of your responses.

Chapters 1 – 3
How does the author show that Henry, the new team quarterback, is not nearly as good as Jesse's brother was last year? Why is Jesse surprised that Henry is having trouble playing quarterback? Jesse's friend Savannah plays soccer. Why did her coach make her the goalie?

Chapters 4 – 6
Why does Jay think Jesse could be a good quarterback? Why does Jesse doubt his ability to be a good quarterback? Jesse senses something has changed between him and his brother Jay. What do you think has changed?

Chapters 7 – 9
Why does Coach Vittone mention pro footballer Fran Tarkenton? Name two skills that Jesse has to be a good quarterback. Why does Jesse suggest Savannah should be the team's kicker? Why do Quinn and Langston think that's a bad idea?

Chapters 10 – 12
What makes the coaches change their minds about using Savannah as a kicker? Compare and contrast how the Franklin team plays now and the way the team played in Chapter 4. What has improved? What else has changed?

Chapters 13 – 15
Jesse is drawing football plays in study hall. What does that tell you about Jesse? At the end of Chapter 14 Jesse creates a play that Quinn, Langston, and Savannah think is great. Why do you think the author keeps that play a secret from the reader?

Chapters 15 – 17
The secret play that Jesse planned (in Chapter 14) works! Who made the winning touchdown? Why do you think Jesse planned for that player to run for the touchdown? Now think about the whole story: How did things turn out differently than expected for Jesse? And for his brother Jay?

Overall Question:
In just a few words, write down what this whole story is about (the overall theme or big idea). Explain your response.

The Real Story (The nonfiction section at the end)
What more did you learn about Fran Tarkenton? How does the information in The Real Story relate to the theme or the plot of the whole story?