

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter 1 The Black-Eye-of-the-Month Club (pp.1-6)

1. What was Junior born with? \_\_\_\_\_

What does this mean? \_\_\_\_\_

What does Arnold metaphorically compare his brain to on page 2? \_\_\_\_\_

2. List four physical problems Junior had because of his brain damage. \_\_\_\_\_

3. What happened to Junior when he went to the Indian Health service? \_\_\_\_\_

4. What did the white doctor believe about Indians? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What was "epic" according to Junior? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What did the Indian children nickname Junior? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What has Junior been branded? \_\_\_\_\_

**ANSWER THE FOLLOWING IN COMPLETE SENTENCES**

8. Why is the chapter titled "The Black-Eye-of-the-Month Club." \_\_\_\_\_

9. React to this quote "I think the world is a series of broken dams and floods, and my cartoons are tiny little lifeboats." What does it mean? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Junior describes himself as having a head 'so big that little Indian skulls orbited around it'. (p. 3) He also has a stutter, a lisp, is susceptible to seizures, wears 'ugly, thick, plastic' (p. 3) glasses and is skinny with huge hands and feet. Due to this people call Junior a 'retard' and he is beaten up at least once a month (p. 4). **Would Junior be bullied or teased in our school?**

**Why/why not?** \_\_\_\_\_

11. Why does Junior draw cartoons? What do the first two cartoons depict? What does this tell us about Junior? \_\_\_\_\_

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Chapter 2: "Why Chicken Means So Much to Me"

Answer the following in complete sentences for full credit.

1. What is one big issue of being poor? What equation does Junior give?
  
2. However, Junior doesn't think this is the worst thing about being poor, what is?
  
3. Junior says, "We Indians really should be better liars, considering how often we've been lied to." (p. 10) Considering what you know about American history, does Junior have a reason to feel this way? Why or why not?
  
3. What happens to Oscar? What does this illustrate to the reader about Junior's relationship to his parents?
  
4. How do the cartoons on pages 8 and 12 add to the reader's understanding of how poverty is a cycle for Junior's family? Explain both cartoons.
  
5. Use five adjectives to describe Junior's personality so far.
  
6. How does the author's use of italics add to the authenticity of Junior's voice in this chapter? Give examples.

7. Junior draws a picture of who his parents could have been if someone had paid attention to their dreams. Why does Junior feel they had to give up on their dreams? Include textual evidence.

8. What is a self-fulfilling prophecy? How does it relate to the novel?

9. Do you see people self-fulfilling their own prophecies in your life or those around you?

10. Think of someone you know who could have been more if someone had paid attention their dreams? Why did they want and why did they have to let go of their dreams?

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Chapter 3: "Revenge is my Middle Name" (pp. 15-24)

Answer the following in complete sentences for full credit.

1. What simile does Junior use to describe Rowdy (pg. 15)? Why does he use this simile?
2. How is Rowdy's home life? How does that affect his character's personality (pg. 16)?
3. Describe Rowdy and Junior's relationship. What do they do for each other?
4. What is the Spokane Powwow?
5. What does Rowdy do to the Andruss brothers? Why? What does this demonstrate about his friendship with Junior?
6. "The revenge Rowdy's takes on the Andruss brothers is warranted." Agree or disagree with this statement and justify your response with textual evidence.

**Chapter 4: Because Geometry Is Not a Country Somewhere Near France (pp. 25-31)**

1. In defense of this chapter, it has been argued that “The sexual references are necessary to give Junior an authentic voice.” Do you agree or disagree? Why?
2. Why does Junior say his sister is called “Mary Runs Away,” and how does he see himself as different from her?
3. What is strange about Mr. P?
4. Junior speculates that Mr. P might be part of the Witness Protection Program. If this were true, according to Junior why would it make sense for Mr. P to teach on the reservation?
5. Whose name does Junior find in his geometry book? Why does it make him sad?

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Chapter 5: "Hope Against Hope" (pgs. **32-43**)

Answer the following in complete sentences for full credit.

1. Why does Junior throw his geometry book? What does it signify?
2. How does Mr. P react to Junior? Why? Give textual evidence.
3. Mr. P, tells Junior that the teachers at the school used to beat the Indians with a stick: "That's how we were taught to teach you. We were supposed to kill the Indian to save the child." What does he mean?
4. How is Mary like Rowdy? Give an example, and use textual evidence.





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Chapters 6 - 7

Answer the following in complete sentences for full credit.

1. After reading Chapter 5: "Hope Against Hope", do you think Mr. P is a good person? Explain why or why not.

Chapter 6

1. Who does Junior learn has the most hope?
2. What does Junior decide he has to do and why?
3. How do Junior's parents react to his decision to change schools? What does this show about them?
4. Why is it going to be difficult for Junior to go to Reardan?
5. Why does he decide to do it anyway?
6. What does Junior mean by the phrase, "Driving While Indian"?

Chapter 7 - Rowdy Sings the Blues (pp. 48-53)

1. How are sporting results used to compare the two schools? Why is it significant that Rowdy performed well at most competitions?
2. Fully explain how Junior describes Reardan.
3. Why does Junior's decision to change schools make Rowdy so furious? Is Rowdy's anger justified?
4. Does the use of Indian mascots have negative consequences, or are they harmless graphics that honor Native Americans? Explain.
5. How does Rowdy disguise his pain?

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Chapters 8 "How to Fight Monsters"(pp. 54-65)

Answer the following in complete sentences for full credit.

1. Explain what Junior and his dad discuss on his first ride to Reardan. How did the conversation affect Junior? What did it show?
2. What is the irony about Junior attending Reardan? What type of irony is it?
3. Who is Penelope and why is she angry with Junior?
4. Why is Junior deemed to have betrayed his tribe?
5. How does Junior react to Roger's offensive racist joke? Why is he confused about the outcome of this event? What does he think might happen?

