

Academic English 12 Summer Reading

This summer you will read a book that has been a favorite of many young people and adults, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*. It is an unusual book in many ways, most especially in its narration. The story is narrated by its main character, Christopher Boone, a young man who loves math and white noise but cannot understand human emotions and cannot stand being touched. The novel is also a mystery about the death of a neighborhood dog killed by a garden fork. As you read, feel free to take notes about characterization, plot, and theme. After having read the novel, complete the following enrichment assignment due the first day of school.

I. Reaction

Write a thoughtful paragraph (at least five sentences) describing your reaction to one adult in this novel. Some suggestions (not mandatory questions): Did you agree the actions of this adult? Did the adult act responsibly? Irresponsibly? Did you relate or feel sorry for the character? Did you like or dislike him or her? Did he or she face challenges? Did the character face issues you've seen other adults face in your life?

II. Evaluation

The novel was made into a play which won the Tony for Best Play of 2015. Go online and watch a clip of the play. Then write a thoughtful paragraph (at least five sentences) that evaluates some aspect of the play. (For example, does the play represent Christopher as he's presented in the book? Does the play present Christopher's gifts and disability accurately? Is the setting the way the book presents it?)

III. Prediction

Christopher's characterization and narration are unique in this novel. Using the book's style and narration, write an additional chapter that Christopher might create after the last chapter of the book. This chapter could be set anywhere in Christopher's world and the chapter can be about anything but should reflect Christopher's character, narration, knowledge, world AFTER the events in the novel. The chapter should be at least two full pages long in MLA format (Times New Roman, 12 point font, double-spaced, 1" margins) and can contain dialogue and other style items found in the book. To be successful on this section of the assignment, students will need to show an understanding of the novel's plot, characterization, style, and narration.

All sections of this assignment are due on the first day of school. All sections should be typed, printed, and ready to be turned in on that day.

Happy reading.