

6th Grade ELA Summer Reading

Please read Wonder by RJ Palacio over the summer. As you are reading, answer these comprehension questions on paper and attach to this packet. Bring this completed packet and the book with you on the first day of school. We will be doing lessons based on this book and these questions during the first weeks of school.

Warning: Watching the movie instead of reading the book will not earn you passing grades on the assignments we will be doing. The movie does not cover everything that is in the book.

Name: _____

Part One – August Pages 3 to 23

Directions: Please answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. August says “People think I haven’t gone to school because of the way I look, but it’s not that.” Why hasn’t August ever gone to school before?
2. Who is Via? What is her full first name?
3. Why did August grow his hair and bangs long?
4. What is the name of August’s new school?
5. Who is Mr. Tushman?
6. When people see August, they drop their eyes and look away quickly. Why do they do that?
7. In Mr. Tushman’s office, there is a picture of a pumpkin. What is the pumpkin supposed to be a picture of?
8. What are the names of the three kids August goes on a tour with?
9. August notices that Mrs. Garcia is wearing brown sandals with purple flowers, and he also sees that Charlotte is wearing green croc shoes on her feet. Why do you think he notices so much about people’s shoes?
10. Do you think going to school is a good idea for August? Why or why not?

Part One – August Pages 24 to 42

1. One of the kids who helped to give August a tour turns out to be a bully later in the book. Who do you think it is and why?
2. Why does Auggie leave the school tour earlier than he planned?
3. What is the name of Auggie’s dog?
4. Julian is "the kind of kid who's one way in front of grown-ups and another way in front of kids." What would you say to a kid who acted this way?
5. After his tour experience, why do you think August still wants to go to school?
6. August says that on the first day of school, “the butterflies in his stomach were more like pigeons flying.” What does he mean by that?
7. Auggie’s new school is very close to his house, but he has only been on that block a few times. Why has he tried to avoid that block?
8. While he is in homeroom, Auggie notices that two kids are sharing one desk, even though the desk right next to him is still empty. How do you think he feels about that?
9. What does Mrs. Petosa look like?
10. When Henry had trouble opening his lock, why didn’t Auggie offer to help him?

Part One – August Pages 42 to 60

1. August finally understands his dad’s quote, “Like a lamb to the slaughter.” What does it mean?
2. What Jedi reference does August have in his hair?
3. Why did Julian make a comment about Darth Sidious?
4. What is a precept?
5. Mr. Browne’s precept for September is “When given the choice between being right or being kind, choose kind.” What does this mean?
6. This is the second time Auggie mentions he has a cleft palate. Cleft means “split or divided,” and your palate is the roof of your mouth. Using those definitions, what does it mean to have a cleft palate?
7. Who sits down at the lunch table with Auggie?
8. Auggie tells his Mom that him and Summer are “kind of like Beauty and the Beast.” What does he mean by that?

9. August's Dad calls him "Auggie Doggie." How did August get that nickname?
10. Why does August start crying after his first day of school?

Part One – August Pages 61 to 80

1. The beginning of the school year was hard for August for many reasons. Besides the other kid's reactions, what else was hard for him?
2. What kinds of character traits does Jack have at the beginning? Why do you think that?
3. October's precept is "Your deeds are your monuments." This means we should be remembered for the things we do. What have you done that you would like to be remembered for?
4. How did August feel at his birthday party? How do you know?
5. Why does Summer want to dress up as a unicorn only for the Halloween parade? Why won't she wear the costume all day at school?
6. August starts to notice that other kids are avoiding touching him. Why does he think this is happening?
7. Why does August wish every day could be Halloween? 8. What item did August use to wear all the time as a kid?
9. What last-minute costume does August wear for Halloween?
10. Do you think August will go back to school after overhearing Julian and Jack talking? Why or why not?

Part Two – Via Pages 81 to 99

1. Via says "August is the Sun," and the rest of her family is just orbiting around him. What does she mean by that?
2. Why doesn't Via complain about anything?
3. When Via first sees Auggie as a newborn, she says "It doesn't look like Lilly!" Why does she say that?
4. Via wanted to wait until Thanksgiving to tell her Grandmother something, but she never got to tell her. What happened to Grandma?
5. Via says there are two August's: "The one I saw blindly, and the one other people saw." What does she mean by that?
6. Why does Via have trouble figuring out August's moods?

7. When August was little, everyone used to take care of him. Even though he is 10 now, everyone still treats him “like the baby he used to be.” Why do you think this is?
8. Who gave Auggie his astronaut helmet?
9. Why is Via so cranky after her first day of high school?
10. "I wonder how many nights Mom has stood outside his door. And I wonder if she's ever stood outside my door like that." What do you think Via is feeling right now? Explain.

Part Two – Via Pages 100 to 117

1. Why does Via want to take the subway home from school?
2. Where is Dad’s side of the family from?
3. Where is Mom’s side of the family from?
4. If August has kids, will his kids have his mutation or will they be “normal”?
5. Why is it a big deal that Via read War and Peace?
6. Why did Via want to stay home on Halloween?
7. How do you think Mom felt after August wore the Bleeding Scream costume? Why?
8. Why does August decide not to go back to school?
9. Why did Miranda call the other day?
10. If you were August, would you go back to school? Why or why not?

Part Three – Summer Pages 118 to 132

1. What kinds of character traits does Summer have? How do you know?
2. What is The Plague?
3. Savanna tells Summer, “You would be a lot more popular if you didn’t hang out with [August] so much.” What types of character traits does Savanna have?
4. Why does Summer leave the Halloween party?
5. What project did August get assigned for the Egyptian Museum?
6. What project did Summer get assigned for the Egyptian Museum?
7. What happened to Summer’s Dad?
8. August finally gives the technical medical term for his face. What is it?

9. Jack asks Summer to explain why August is mad at him. Do you think Jack already knew, or do you think he honestly had no idea? Why?

10. Why do you think Summer ends up telling Jack “Bleeding Scream” when she promised August she wouldn’t tell?

Part Four – Jack Pages 133 to 150

1. How old was Jack when he first saw August?
2. Why did Veronica make Jack and Jamie leave the Carvel ice cream shop?
3. Veronica says, “Sometimes you don’t have to mean to hurt someone to hurt them.” What does she mean by that?
4. Why does Jack say yes to showing August around school?
5. Jack gives 4 reasons why he likes August. Name two of them.
6. Jack and August are now ex-friends. What reasons does Jack give for why this is good?
7. What reasons does Jack give for why this is bad?
8. Where does Jack get the Lightning sled?
9. How is Jack different from most of the other kids at Beecher Prep?
10. How does Jack feel after talking to Julian and Miles? Why do you think that?

Part Four – Jack Pages 151 to 185

1. Jack describes what happened on Halloween from his point of view. Why did he say those mean things about August?
2. Would you have reacted to Julian the same way Jack did? Why or why not?
3. What is “automatic expulsion”?
4. What is Jack’s punishment for hitting Julian?
5. What did Julian’s mom do the class picture? What types of character traits do you think she has?
6. Why do you think Julian told his mother he was having “trouble befriending August”?
7. Julian is telling everyone that he started the war for Jack’s own good. What does he mean?
8. Why did Charlotte make a list of “Sides”?
9. What is Daisy’s full name?
10. Who is Via’s boyfriend? What type of band is he in?

Part Five – Justin Pages 186 to 204

1. Why is Justin's section written differently?
2. Why is Justin nervous at the beginning of dinner?
3. How did the Pullman's get Daisy?
4. At the beginning of dinner, Justin had a lot of tics, but by the end of the night, his tics had stopped. Why do you think that is?
5. Name 2 ways Olivia's family is different from Justin's family.
6. What parts do Justin and Olivia get for Our Town?
7. What happens when Jack goes to buy gum?
8. Why do you think Justin went up to Julian, Henry, and Miles?
9. Why does Miranda have a picture of Auggie in her wallet?
10. Why hasn't Olivia told her parents about the play?

Part Six – August Pages 205 to 234

1. Why does August say he hated the Thanksgiving Sharing Festival the most out of any parent event at school?
2. August says "It's funny how parents actually end up forming the same little groups their kids form." What does he mean by that?
3. Do you think August should get in trouble for the notes he was leaving in Jack's locker? Why or why not?
4. What present does Maya leave on Auggie's desk?
5. Auggie describes his ears in a few ways. Write down 2 sentences he says that describe his ears.
6. At first, how does Auggie feel about his hearing aids? How do his feelings change?
7. What is the "white noise" Auggie was hearing?
8. Via tells August that "Daisy has been sick a lot lately," which August hadn't realized. Why do you think August didn't know this?
9. What is an understudy?
10. Why do you think Via was onstage instead of Miranda?

Part Seven – Miranda Pages 235 to 248

1. How does Miranda feel about her parents' divorce? Why do you think that?
2. After Miranda tells the lie, how do all of the other girls at camp treat her?
3. Why doesn't Miranda call Via when she gets home from camp?
4. How has Miranda changed this school year?
5. Why does Miranda tell Mr. Davenport they can't perform The Elephant Man?
6. What does Miranda miss the most about Via's friendship?
7. Why didn't Miranda's parents come to see the play?
8. Why didn't Miranda's friends come to see the play?
9. Why did Miranda pretend she was sick on opening night?
10. Why do you think Miranda feels happy "for the first time in a very, very long time"?

Part Eight – August Pages 250 to 270

1. Why is August nervous about the 5th Grade Nature Retreat?
2. August says, "Everyone is known for something in middle school." What do you think you are known for?
3. Mrs. Pullman says August has "grown up a lot this year." Name 2 ways August has grown up this year.
4. Why do you think Auggie leaves Baboo for his mom?
5. What reason does Julian give for not going on the nature retreat? Do you think this is true? Why or why not?
6. Before the retreat, Auggie felt really nervous about being able to fall asleep. What happens the first night?
7. What rules did the announcer give before the movie started?
8. When the title of the movie is announced, some kids hiss and boo. If you were the teacher, what would you say to these kids?
9. Why do you think Amos, Henry, and Miles go to help Jack and Auggie?
10. When Auggie starts to cry, how do you think the other boys feel? Why?

Part Eight – August Pages 271 to 309

1. Why do you think Auggie lies to the teachers and says he can't remember any of the 7th grader's faces?
2. After the field trip, why do you think a lot of kids suddenly started saying hello or goodbye to Auggie?
3. August asks his mom "Like when I grow up, is it always going to be like this?" What does his mom say in response?
4. Why does the Pullman family name their new puppy Bear?
5. When Auggie goes back to school, he says there is a "seismic shift, a cosmic shift." What does he mean by that?
6. Why does Auggie represent himself as a duck?
7. Why isn't Julian coming back to Beecher Prep next year?
8. What confession does Dad make to Auggie about the astronaut helmet?
9. During his speech, Mr. Tushman says, "Always try to be a little kinder than necessary." What does that mean?
10. After the ceremony, all of the kids join in to take a picture with Auggie. How is this different from the beginning of the year?