The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time
by marc haddon

Pre-reading

1) Christopher says he always tells the ____________.

2) Why?

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3) Why does Christopher find people confusing?

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4) Why were the police officer and Christopher’s dad annoyed at Christopher?

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Vocabulary

**Literal**- adj: the most [_____________________] meaning of words with no [_____________________] or other figurative language, and no [_____________________] at all.

**Other forms: literally** (adv)

Example:
- I have abs of steel.
  ➔ This means that my abs [______________________].

- I **literally** have abs of steel.
  ➔ This means that my abs [______________________].

- When you say thank you in Mexico, people usually say “de nada.” The translation for this is ...
  [______________________]

- When you say thank you in Mexico, people usually say “de nada.” The **literal** translation for this is ...
  [______________________]

1) You could say Christopher is a very literal thinker because...
   (list)

   [__________________________________________________________________________________________]

   [__________________________________________________________________________________________]

   [__________________________________________________________________________________________]

   [__________________________________________________________________________________________]

Mini Rules and Tools:

1) Christopher tells us the story, so he is the [______________________].

2) He seems to remember specific [______________________] very accurately.

3) However, he does not understand what people are [______________________].

4) Therefore, we cannot [______________________] on his interpretation of the events.

5) This means that Christopher is [______________________].

**Active Reading**: by the time you finish reading this portion of the novel, you should be able to...

- Describe how Christopher deals with his mother’s illness and death.
- Identify and describe information that seems obvious and important, but of which Christopher seems unaware.
Stop, Jot, and Discuss #1

1. **Golden Sentence:** describe how Christopher’s father was feeling, and how Christopher’s response to the situation is different than his father’s.

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2. Based on that, what would you say Christopher appears not to realize? (1 quick sentence.)

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3. Choose 2 details that you think best supports your answer to #2. Briefly describe what each detail shows.

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4. How do you think Christopher’s responses make his father feel? Explain. Do you think Christopher realizes this? Why or why not?

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AIR... wheeeeeeeeeeeeee!

1. Why did Mr. Jeavons think Christopher was a clever boy?
   a. He likes everything in a nice order, which shows how Christopher is always logical.
   b. Christopher made an interesting comparison between his behavior and his father’s behavior.
   c. He figured out that some names—like Scooby-Doo—make prime numbers if you add up their letters.
   d. He knows about the universe expanding.

2. What does Christopher think it means to be intelligent?

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3. Challenge: describe how Christopher feels about change.

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4. For fun (if you get done with 1-3): If a =1, b = 2, c = 3, etc., do the letters in your name add up to a prime number? First and last? Figure it out.

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Stop, Jot, and Discuss #2

1. Does Christopher seem to be bothered by Terry’s insults? Why or why not?
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2. What does Christopher’s father say about Terry’s insults? What conclusions can you draw about what Christopher’s father was trying to accomplish with Christopher by saying that?
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Wrap-Up: scholar $ opportunity

1) Christopher started showing us today that he completely misses important information. What seems like the best example of this? Explain.
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Exit Ticket 🐿️

1) Christopher appears to either not realize or not understand some pretty important things. Choose the best example of this from today’s reading (NOT from the S&J). Describe what Christopher doesn’t seem to understand, and how you can tell.

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2) Describe what we found out about the situation with Christopher’s mother’s illness, and how Christopher and his father seemed to handle it differently. 3-6 sentences. Scholar dollar opportunity.

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Name_________________
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time

**HW Active Reading**: we know that Christopher does not understand people very well. As you read, underline evidence that suggests that he doesn’t understand what his father is feeling.

1) Describe Christopher’s reaction to learning of his mother’s heart attack. (2-3 sentences)

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2) Why did Father say, “I’m sorry, Christopher, I’m really sorry.” How does Christopher’s response show that he does not understand why his father is saying that? (3-5 sentences)

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3) How does Christopher’s father seem to be feeling in the last chapter? How do you know?
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4) Does Christopher realize how his father is feeling? How do you know?
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