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Reading Test: The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

Read **“Remembering” pages 215-218**

1. For whom does Junior cry in this chapter?
2. What tribes does Junior belong to? How does this help him feel better?
3. What tribes do you belong to?

**Read “Talking About Turtles” pages 219-230**

1. How does Rowdy compare Junior to a nomad?
2. Based on the last page, do you get the sense that Arnold will return to the rez or not. What makes you say so?
3. This book explores many subjects: loneliness, friendship, hope, change, dreams, success, race, loyalty, pain. Choose one subject and write about how this subject impacts at least wo characters. Think about how the character deals with it, reacts, changes, etc.Then say what message the author is communicating about that subject for each character.

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|  The subject I’d like to discuss is  |
| 1. First, this subject impacts
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|  |
| 1. Next, this subject impacts
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B. This book has symbols or objects that can represent something more than the object itself. For example, there is basketball, the rez, Reardan, the mascot, water, money (dance, quarter), alcohol. Denotation is the actual, real definition of the word, but connotation or symbolism is what that object represents or stands for. Choose one symbol and talk about how it changes from the beginning to the end and why. Some of the reasons the meaning changed might be because of characters interacting or new events.

Try these transition phrases:

1. The symbol I’d like to analyze is \_\_\_\_.
2. At the beginning this symbol was shown when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_; it represented \_\_\_\_\_\_because
3. Later, this symbol was shown when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_; it represented \_\_\_\_\_because\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Finally, this symbol was shown when \_\_\_\_\_\_\_; it represented \_\_\_\_\_\_\_because \_\_\_\_\_
5. Therefore, this symbol has represented \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and changed because \_\_\_\_\_\_

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C. Choose one of these claims and write an argument essay. Use the phrases below to organize your argument:

* Mascots of Native Americans should be banned.
* History stays in the past and does not impact future generations.
* Even though Junior has impacted some people on the rez with his decision to get a better education, he cannot change the conditions of the rez.
* Rowdy will likely become his father.
* Books with savage images of Native Americans should not be published.
1. The statement I chose is \_\_\_\_\_
2. On one hand, some would agree because\_\_\_\_
3. On the other hand, some would disagree because \_\_\_\_
4. My view is \_\_\_\_\_because \_\_\_\_\_

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D.

D. The author uses a lot of similes, metaphors, and hyperboles because Arnold really believes in the power of pictures to communicate messages. Choose three examples of figurative language from your notebook and explain how those images relate to Junior.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| page | example | Simile, metaphor, hyperbole | Why Junior used this image to describe something |
|  | 17. |  |  |
|  | 18. |  |  |
|  | 19. |  |  |

E. Read the [article](https://www.theguardian.com/books/2014/apr/08/sherman-alexie-schools-ban-idaho-diary-part-time-indian-anti-christian) about why this book is banned in many schools.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| According to the article, what are some reasons people things this book SHOULD be banned, meaning not allowed in school. | According to the article, what are some reasons people think students in schools SHOULD read this book? |
| 20. | 21. |
| What is your opinion? Do you think this book should be banned or kept away from students? Why or why not? What would you say to a parent who doesn’t want his/her child to read this in school? |
| 22 |