**Chapters 31 – 43**

**-What do you notice about this chapter compared to the previous chapter in terms of plot?** This chapter is where Christopher first wants to find out who killed the dog.

-**Now look back over previous chapters and decide which chapters are about the plot and which are Christopher’s thoughts. These can be referred to as inner-chapters.** The inner chapters are chapter 3, 7, 13, 19, 29 and the ones about the plot are 5, 11, 17, 23

-**How do Christopher and his father greet each other? Why? What does it show about their relationship?** They greet each other by holding out their hand and touching the tips of the other hand kind of like E.T. “I h

Held up my left hand and spread my fingers out in a fan and we made our fingers and thumbs touch each other.” Page 21

-**Why doesn’t Christopher find similes as confusing as metaphors?** Because it really does look like it. It he tries to picture it he can like the example that was use in the book on page 22 “ it looked as if there were two very small mice hiding in his nostrils.”

-**What observation does Christopher make about the policeman on page 23 which shows his powers of observation but lack of understanding of human nature?** He notices that the police man closed his mouth and breathed out loudly through his nose. Christopher observed this what he didn’t get why the police man was doing it because he doesn’t have a good understanding of human nature.

-**Christopher always tells the truth, but this isn’t a matter of belief in right and wrong. Why doesn’t Christopher lie?** Christopher says he does not lie because he is unable to do so. This is because a lie is when you say something that didn’t happen, but for him saying something that did not happen at a certain time and place will make him think of everything that did not happen at that certain time and place. Using an example of breakfast, he explains how these meanings occur to him and how they hurt him.

-**Why does Christopher not like novels? Is his reasoning valid do you think?** becausethey are about things that didn't happen and are therefore lies, which are painful to him.

Chapter 41 – **Who is Toby?** Toby is Christopher’s pet rat that he feeds every night.

-**What clues are there that all is not well in Christopher’s home?**

-**How does he interpret his father? What do Christopher’s reactions tell you about his character? What do you think is wrong?** **Christopher has two surprising reactions to his father’s news that his mother is in hospital. What are these reactions?**

**What do you infer from his father not looking at him while he is delivering this news?**

**Why was his mother in hospital?**

**Why is it ironic that Christopher likes it when his father does not look at him when he talks?**

Christopher's mother died two years ago. One day he came home from school and nobody was home. When his Father came home from work, Christopher asked where Mother is. Father went out, returning 2 hours later saying that Christopher won't be able to see his mother for a long while. When Christopher asked why, he was told after a long while, because Mother had gone to the hospital. Christopher asked if he can visit and when told no, asks if it's a psychiatric hospital. Father explains that Mother has a problem with her heart. Christopher insists on bringing food to Mother, since he says hospital food is not very good. Father says he will handle it, even though he can't cook. Christopher says he will make Mother a get well card and Father says he will take it to her the next day. Then Mother suddenly dies from a heart attack.

Karrenbeaumont@karamu.school.nz