As you read this book, answer the following questions using specific details and examples from the book. Make sure to answer each question completely with complete sentences.

CH 1: BLACK EYE OF THE MONTH CLUB pp. 1-6
1. What stereotypes have you heard about Native Americans?
2. Describe three things about Junior that are different.
3. Find a literary element (simile, metaphor, etc.) and write it down. What does it mean?
4. How does Junior describe himself in the opening chapter?
5. Do you feel sorry for him? Would you like him if he were your classmate?
6. What three reasons does Junior give for why he likes to draw?

CH 2: WHY CHICKEN MEANS SO MUCH TO ME pp. 7-14
7. Create an equation like poverty=empty fridge + empty stomach for your own life.
8. What three jobs are available to Junior? What does that tell you about his life?
9. Why won’t his mother take his dog to the vet?
10. What happens to Oscar?
11. Did Junior’s dad do the right thing with the dog? Why or why not?
12. How mad was Junior at his dad?

CH 3: REVENGE IS MY MIDDLE NAME  pp. 15-24
13. What kind of person is Junior’s best friend Rowdy?
14. Explain how Rowdy’s name is appropriate for him, as a character.
15. How is Rowdy a character foil to Junior (a character foil is a supporting character that is very different from the main character)?

16. Describe Rowdy’s family/home life.

17. Do you think Rowdy’s behavior is affected by this home life? Explain.

18. What happens to Junior when he goes to the pow-wow?

19. How does Rowdy get his revenge?

20. Why does alcohol have such a big role at the rez?

21. Describe the relationship between Junior and Rowdy using at least two sentences.

CH 4: BECAUSE GEOMETRY IS NOT A COUNTRY SOMEWHERE NEAR FRANCE pp. 25-31

22. What happened to Junior’s sister, Mary, after she graduated?

23. What incident sets Junior off during his geometry class?

24. Why is Junior so upset when he sees that his math book belonged to Agnes Adams? Also, who is Agnes Adams?

25. How does Junior describe the location of the rez?

26. Explain one aspect of Junior’s life described in the book. Tell how it is different from your own.

CH 5: HOPE AGAINST HOPE pp. 32-43

27. What did Junior do with the geometry book? How is he punished?

28. How do his parents react?

29. Who shows up to talk to Junior? Why do you think he came?

30. What does Junior learn from Mr. P about his sister Mary?

31. Why does Mr. P think Junior should leave the “rez”?
32. What does it mean to “kill the Indian to save the child”?

33. Describe Mr. P. – physically and his personality and history, if known. What is your impression of him?

CH 6: GO MEANS GO pp. 44-47
34. Where does Junior decide he wants to attend school? Why?

35. How does Junior’s mom think the other Indians will treat Junior if he leaves?

36. Who has hope according to Junior’s parents?

37. What is DWI (according to Junior)?

38. What is the mood of the book so far? Happy? Sad? Funny?

39. Describe one of the conflicts from the book so far. Is it internal or external?

CH 7: ROWDY SINGS THE BLUES pp. 48-53
40. How does Rowdy take Junior’s news about school?

41. What does Junior’s drawing tell us that never came up in his conversation with Rowdy?

42. In a few sentences, compare and contrast Junior with Rowdy.

CH 8: HOW TO FIGHT MONSTERS pp. 54-66
43. What does Junior do while he waits for the school doors to open?

44. What kind of self-image does Junior have?

45. Compare the White/Indian kid profiles from Junior’s cartoon on p. 57.
   a. Physical differences:
   
   b. Emotional differences:

46. Do you agree with the SPOKANE INDIAN RULES OF FISTICUFFS? Can you identify with any of the rules? What are your “rules” for fighting?
47. Why do you think Roger decides to tell Junior a racist joke?

48. How does Junior react? Why is this a critical moment for him?

CH 9: GRANDMOTHER GIVES ME ADVICE pp. 67-73
49. Junior’s grandmother was important to him and he sought advice from her. Who is important to you and who do you go to for advice? Why?

50. What is Grandma’s theory about Roger?

51. How does Junior get to school the next day?

52. How does his arrival at school contribute to his image?

53. How does Roger treat Junior today?

CH 10: TEARS OF A CLOWN pp. 74-76
54. What confession does Junior make to Rowdy?

55. How does Rowdy react?

56. How does Junior react?

CH 11: HALLOWEEN pp. 77-81
57. What is Junior’s relationship with Penelope like?

58. What does Junior decide to be for Halloween?

59. What are Penelope’s plans for Trick-or-Treat?

60. How does Junior’s plan go wrong?

61. What is the positive lesson does Junior take away from his Trick-or-Treat experience?

CH 12: SLOUCHING TOWARD THANKSGIVING pp. 82-98
62. What positive discovery does Junior make about himself?
63. How does Junior demonstrate he is gaining self confidence in class?

64. Who defends Junior against the teacher?

65. What is different about how the teacher treats Gordy?

66. Why is getting to/from school so difficult for Junior? How does he handle it?

67. Where does Junior’s sister go? With whom? Why is this unusual? What is Junior’s opinion about her decision?

68. Why do the other kids have so much prejudice against Native Americans?

69. Why do you think that Junior is so determined to go to the white school?

70. At this point in the book, what adjective would you use to describe Junior and why?

CH 13: MY SISTER SENDS ME AN EMAIL pp.99-100
71. What is Mary’s main point in sending her email to Junior?

72. How do you think Junior feels about the email that he gets from his sister?

CH 14: THANKSGIVING pp.101-103
73. How does Junior try to mend his friendship with Rowdy? How does Rowdy’s father interpret it?

74. What is ironic about Indians celebrating Thanksgiving?

75. Does your family have a holiday that is your favorite? Explain.

CH 15: HUNGER PAINS pp.104-113
76. Why does Penelope decide to “date” Junior? How does this change the way he is perceived by the other students?

77. How does Penelope’s dad feel about Junior? Explain.

78. What does Penelope dream for her life?

79. How is the drawing of Penelope on p. 113 different than most of Junior’s other drawings?
CH 16: ROWDY GIVES ME ADVICE ABOUT LOVE pp. 114-117
80. Why does Gordy call Junior a racist?

81. What is Rowdy’s advice to Junior? How is Gordy’s advice different?

CH 17: DANCE DANCE DANCE pp. 118-129
82. How do Junior’s parents try to support him in his studies at Reardan?

83. What secret is Junior hiding from the other students?

84. What dilemma does Junior face when he takes Penelope to the dance?

85. Why does Junior wear his father’s old suit? What do the other kids think of it?

86. What does Roger do to help Junior out?

87. How does Penelope discover Junior’s secret? Does it change the way she feels about him?

88. What kind of friend does Roger turn out to be for Junior? Explain how you know this.

CH 18: DON’T TRUST YOUR COMPUTER pp. 130-132
89. Why do people on the rez call Junior an apple?

90. Is Junior an apple? Explain.

91. What’s Junior’s theory on why weird people get banished?

CH 19: MY SISTER SENDS ME A LETTER pp. 133-134
92. Does Mary’s new house look “gorgeous” to you? How would you describe it?

93. Why do you think Mary chooses to describe it as “gorgeous”?

94. Do you think Mary is happy? Explain.

CH 20: REINDEER GAMES pp. 135-149
95. Why doesn’t Junior want to try out for the basketball team?
96. How does his father encourage him?

97. How do basketball tryouts go for Junior? Who does he have to play?

98. Based on Junior’s experience trying out for basketball, describe him using five adjectives.

99. Who is Junior facing for his first game? How do the fans treat him?

100. How does the game go for Junior? Were you surprised? Why or why not?

101. How does the evening turn out for Junior? What is the one positive thing he gains from the whole experience?

102. Did it seem realistic that Junior made the team? Why or why not?

103. Do you think Junior got what he deserved when he played against the rez’s team?

104. What was your favorite part of this chapter? Explain.

CH 21: AND A PARTRIDGE IN A PEAR TREE pp. 150-151
105. How does Junior’s father spend Christmas?

106. What does Junior get for Christmas?

CH 22: RED VS. WHITE pp. 152-158
107. How does Junior feel about his parents? Are they doing a good job?

108. What’s the worst thing a parent can do according to Junior? Do you agree with him?

109. What does Junior mean when he says that “those white dads can completely disappear without ever leaving the room?”

110. What makes Junior’s Grandma so great?

111. What was the Native Americans attitude towards outcasts/people who are different?

112. Why did Grandma think Junior attending Reardan was a 100% good idea?
113. How did Grandmother Spirit die? What was her last wish?

114. What seems the most ironic about the way she died?

115. Why did Junior’s grandmother never drink?

CH 23: WAKE pp. 159-167
116. How many Indians came to Grandma’s wake to pay their last respects? What changes for Junior after her wake?

117. Who is Billionaire Ted? Why does he show up at Grandma’s funeral?

118. How did the Indians view Billionaire Ted?

119. What does Junior’s mom tell Ted about the outfit he brought?

120. Why did everyone laugh when Billionaire Ted left?

CH 24: VALENTINE HEART pp. 169-178
121. What happened to Eugene?

122. Are you starting to see any patterns about life on the rez? What are they?

123. How do the deaths of Grandma and Eugene affect Junior? Give examples of each.

124. What insensitive comment does Mrs. Jeremy make to Junior?

125. Who stands up for him? Why is this so important?

126. How does Junior eventually navigate through all his grief?

CH 25: IN LIKE A LION pp. 179-196
127. Why is the Wellpinit/Reardan game so important to Junior? Why does Junior feel that he needs to prove to himself?

128. What does Junior do to make the sports guy mad?
129. What advice does Coach have for Junior? What does he ask Junior to do?

130. Describe Junior’s first play of the game with Rowdy.

131. What does Junior realize when the game is over?

132. Why was Junior so ashamed of winning?

CH 26: ROWDY & I HAVE A LONG SERIOUS DISCUSSION ABOUT BASKET BALL pp. 197-198
133. Why was Junior happy despite Rowdy calling him names?

CH 27: BECAUSE RUSSIAN GUYS ARE NOT ALWAYS GENIUSES pp. 199-214
134. What is the biggest difference between Indians and White people according to Junior?

135. What is the main reason for the Indian’s unhappiness?

136. Why does Miss Warner pull Junior out of chemistry class?

137. How does Junior handle the news?

138. How did Mary die?

139. Why can’t Junior stop laughing?

140. What does Junior’s mom make him promise to her?

141. What does Rowdy accuse Junior of doing? Why/How?

142. Why does Junior choose to attend school the following day?

143. How do his classmates and staff treat him?

144. Why do you think alcoholism is so common among Junior’s people?

145. Why do you think so much death has come to the people from the rez?
146. Why does Junior cry? Who is crying for?

147. What does Junior finally realize about himself?

148. Why is Turtle Lake a scary place for Junior?

149. What seems different about Junior at the end of his first year at Reardan?

150. Who stops by to see Junior? Where do they go together/What do they do?

151. Did the story end the way you thought it would? What would you have written in differently?

152. Did you find the book realistic? Why or why not?

153. At the end of the book, do you feel hope for Junior that he will be successful? Will he have to leave the rez in order for that to happen?

154. What was Junior’s main internal conflict throughout the book?