



ELA Virtual Learning

English 218 Introduction to Literature

Lesson: April 13, 2020



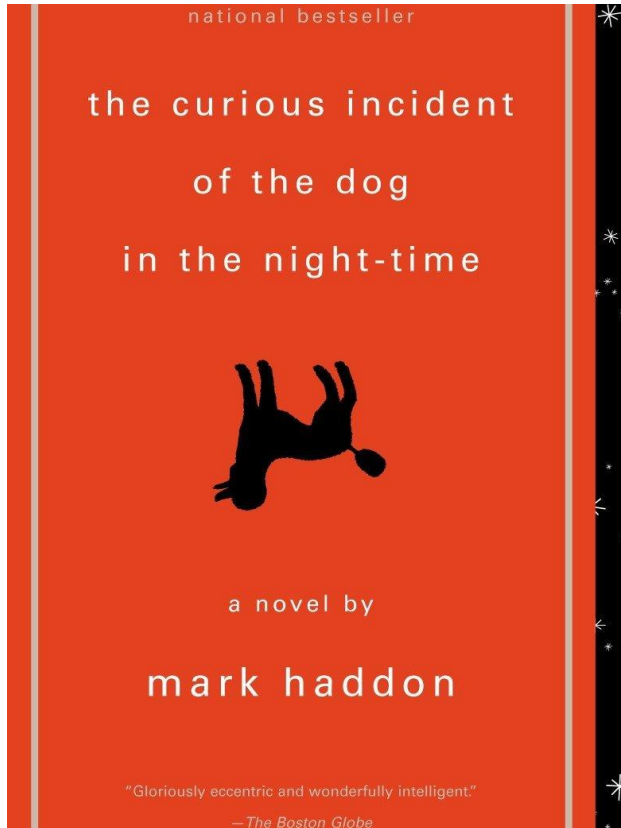
English 218 Introduction to Literature

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Objective/Learning Targets:

- Discuss and analyze literary works by using critical reading and thinking skills.
 - Interpret visual elements of a text and draw conclusions from them.

Bell Ringer:



We have talked about tone in our discussions of short stories, poems and plays. What is the primary tone of this novel up to this point (up to page 60)? What do you base your answer on?

****Start a document to record your response to this and the work which follows on later slides.**

Learn

Tone - To review, the tone of a piece of literature is a feeling the reader “hears” coming from the writing. The feeling can then affect the mood, i.e. emotion of the reader. Authors create tone using sentence structure, word choice, and literary devices, such as figurative language; some authors also employ details of the setting or plot changes. Sometimes tone reveals the attitude of a writer. Other times tone comes from an intentionally affected writing style and reveals little about the writer's attitude. Ultimately tone is less about what an author feels and more about how that author wants the *reader* to feel.

Mark Haddon uses something else in *curious incident* to create tone - other visual elements besides text. Sometimes they must be considered along with the text, though sometimes they alone convey tone, such as the visual showing Christopher's name as written in his mother's handwriting. The graphic in that part of the text brings a bit of shock to the reading.

Haddon has also used bolded text to create humor or add emphasis, such as when he says, “This meant that Mr. Shears was my **Prime Suspect**” (19). In this example, the bolded text takes the place of an exclamation point, because Christopher would not have shouted or exclaimed this.

Practice: Read and Write

- Use the pdf of this wonderful novel to continue your reading - pages 61-75 - then respond to the prompts which follow. The pages are the numbers associated with this pdf, as indicated at the top.
 - [Mark Haddon The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time](#)
1. On page 2, Haddon immediately uses visual elements, with the “smiley” and other faces. What is the tone at that point? What other literary function is served by these particular visual elements?
 2. On page 13, another visual element conveys a different tone. Taken with the text which precedes and follows it, what is the tone in this part of the novel?
 3. That example should illustrate why Haddon uses so many visual elements in this book. Explain why, in this novel, specifically, the visual elements are important in developing tone.

Response Criteria

(Answers will Vary)

- Check your written response to make sure it meets the following criteria:
 - **Did you write in complete sentences?**
 - **Did you use standard conventions (spelling, punctuation, grammar)?**
 - **Did you answer the questions?**

Sample Appropriate Response:

Bellringer - Responses will vary, but should address an appropriate tone (see next slide).

Questions: responses will vary. On the following slides are example of a good response. Remember all conventions and MLA format when writing.

Examples of Quality Responses

Bell Ringer: Much of this novel is in an impassive tone. Christopher tends to be very matter-of-fact when explaining what he is experiencing, and even what he is feeling. For example, on page 4, he is talking with a police officer.

“And what, precisely, were you doing in the garden?” he asked. “I was holding the dog,” I replied. “And why were you holding the dog?” he asked. This was a difficult question. It was something I wanted to do. I like dogs. It made me sad to see that the dog was dead.”

Though he says he was sad, the way the sentences are written does not convey a feeling of sadness.

Examples of Quality Responses

1. The tone conveyed by the image of the smiley-face (and the other types of faces) is dispassionate, or matter-of-fact. Christopher is not showing any emotion with these images; he is just explaining why his teacher used them.
2. The tone conveyed on page 13 is happy, which is difficult to associate with the statement that Christopher's mother had died. Earlier, though, the reader had learned that cars were important to him and he associated them with good days. The get well card for his mother showed many cars, indicating a happy tone.
3. Visual elements are particularly important in this novel because Christopher seems to be on the autism spectrum; as such, he has difficulty expressing his emotions in ways consistent with how others express emotion. Readers often rely on the narrator (and/or the main character) to establish tone. The use of visual elements augment the text to make the tone more clear.