English 218 Introduction to Literature Lesson: April 7, 2020

Learning Targets

 Read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems, independently and proficiently.

 Evaluate the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a text. national bestseller

the curious incident

of the dog

in the night-time



a novel by

mark haddon

"Gloriously eccentric and wonderfully intelligent."

-The Boston Glob

Bell Ringer:

Now that you have read some of this novel, I want you to think about the perspective Haddon chose to use for this novel.

What is the POV?
Who is the narrator?
What do you think of that author choice?

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

Learn/Review

Just as we discussed for short stories, characters in novels are developed by the author either directly or indirectly. Review your notes on direct and indirect characterization. Go to this document if you need further explanation or review:

Defining Characterization

Practice: Read and Write

- Use the pdf of this wonderful novel to continue your reading pages 16-30 then respond to the prompts which follow. The pages are the numbers associated with this pdf, as indicated at the top. <u>Mark Haddon The Curious</u> <u>Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</u>
- Yesterday, you read about autistic spectrum disorder on the Mayo Clinic's website: <u>Autism spectrum disorder - Symptoms and causes</u>, and I asked you to keep that in mind.
- By now you will have noticed that Christopher is unique. Though the author never uses the words "autism" or "Asperger's Syndrome", the reader can infer that Christopher is on the autism spectrum and most likely has Asperger's Syndrome. What do you know about this? Google that term and summarize what you understand about it in your journal. Continue on the next slide.

Practice cont.

- Using what you have read about the autism spectrum, list what characteristics of the spectrum you can see in Christopher. You should have three or four for this assignment.
- Beside each characteristic, using what you know about characterization, identify whether the author used direct or indirect characterization to express that characteristic and give a text example. Be sure your text example is written and punctuated exactly; cite by author and page number, as MLA format dictates.
- While the concept of characterization is primarily a literary device, we use characterization in many everyday situations as well. Name and describe one everyday situation in which people may characterize others.

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 Proficient Answer:

Bell ringer: First-person POV; the narrator is Christopher; opinions will vary, but might be that you like this choice because it brings the reader closer to the main character helps to get to know him more intimately.

Asperger's Syndrome is on the autism spectrum, but generally describes a higher-functioning individual with a high level of talent or ability in one or more areas, such as math.

Christopher shows signs of being on the spectrum in chapter 3, when he uses "happy faces" (sad faces, etc.) to describe his feelings (Haddon 2); this is indirect characterization. Christopher gets upset easily and reacts in an unusal way, shown through indirect characterization in his behavior. "I put my hands over my ears and closed my eyes and rolled forward till I was hunched up with my forehead pressed onto the grass" (Haddon 3). A third way Christopher shows characteristics of autism is in how he has a difficult time understanding other people, directly characterized as stated, "I find people confusing" (Haddon 8). People may characterize themselves directly in places like Facebook or online dating sites.

If you want to learn more...Additional Resource:

If you want to learn more about Asperger's Syndrome, watch this TED Talk by a young woman who has it.

"How I learned to communicate my inner life with Asperger's" by Alix Generous

