Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer

Aphasia Book Club

Chapters 15-16

Worksheet A

1. With Ike’s help, Theo decides to tell his parents about the witness. Mrs. Boone thinks Theo should tell the judge, but Mr. Boone worries that Theo could be held in contempt. Who do you agree with more? Have you ever had to help your child or family member make a similar tough decision?
2. Though Theo does not want to reveal the identity of the witness, he still feels relieved when Mr. Boone figures it out. Why does he feel this way? Have you ever had a secret that you thought someone should know? What did you do about it?
3. While spying on the trial, Theo runs into Omar Cheepe in an unused stairwell. Theo believes that the encounter “was not an accident.” Why do you think Cheepe has shown such an interest in Theo? Do you think he suspects what Theo knows? Would you be worried in Theo’s position?
4. Judge Gantry planned to have the jury decide the verdict on Saturday, instead of waiting until Monday like in most trials. Why do you think he is anxious to end the trial quickly? Would you postpone the verdict until Monday, like Ike suggested?

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Worksheet B

1. Though Mrs. Boone and Ike think Theo should tell Judge Gantry about the witness, Mr. Boone disagrees. Why doesn’t Mr. Boone think Theo should tell the judge?
   1. He’s worried it will disrupt the trial
   2. He doesn’t think the evidence is strong
   3. He worries Theo could be held in contempt
   4. He thinks Theo needs to talk to Julio first
2. Why does Theo feel relieved when Mr. Boone figures out who the witness is?
   1. He didn’t have to break his promise to not tell anyone
   2. He thought someone should know the truth
   3. He wanted help figuring out what to do
   4. All of the above
3. Omar Cheepe continues to keep a close eye on Theo, who finds him very intimidating. If you were Theo, how worried would you be about this?

Not worried at all Extremely worried

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

1. Judge Gantry planned to have the jury decide the verdict on Saturday, instead of waiting until Monday like in most trials. What would you do if you were the judge, now that you’ve heard Theo’s story?
   1. I would have the jury decide on Saturday
   2. I would have the jury wait until Monday to see if the witness will testify
   3. I would declare a mistrial so the trial can be repeated in a few months
   4. I would do something completely different than these options

Character List

**Theodore Boone (Theo):** 13-year-old boy who dreams of being a lawyer one day

**Marcella Boone:** Theo’s mother. She is a divorce lawyer working at Boone & Boone

**Woods Boone:** Theo’s father. He is a real estate lawyer at Boone & Boone

**April Finnemore:** Theo’s best friend. Her parents are filing for divorce

**Judge Gantry:** A highly respected judge in Strattenburg

**Mr. Mount:** Theo’s Government teacher

**Peter Duffy:** Wealthy man who lived in Waverly Creek. On trial for accused murder of his wife, Mrs. Duffy

**Clifford Nance:** Mr. Duffy’s lawyer, a top criminal defense lawyer in the state

**Jack Hogan:** Lead prosecutor or district attorney

**Omar Cheepe:** Part of Peter Duffy’s legal team. He was a former federal agent who now runs his own firm

**Hector and Rita:** Two second graders that Theo teaches English to every Tuesday at the Highland Street Shelter

**Julio:** Hector and Rita’s older brother who Theo helps learn algebra

**Julio’s cousin:** We don’t know his name. He says he saw Mr. Duffy go in and out of his house on the day of the murder. He is an illegal immigrant from El Salvador.

**Ms. Finney:** The court reporter assigned to the Duffy trial

**Jenny:** Secretary at Family Court who Theo has a crush on

**Elsa:** Works at Boone & Boone as receptionist, secretary, office manager, & paralegal

**Irma Hardy:** Judge Gantry’s secretary