Theodore Boone: Kid Lawyer

Aphasia Book Club

Chapters 20-22

Worksheet A

1. Bobby knows how vital he is to the case, but also how risky it is by jeopardizing his own future in the US, would you make yourself available to the police? Do you think it is doing the right thing by finally telling Gantry what he saw? Is there ever the perfect time to hold information until it is most beneficial for the holder?
2. Judge Gantry decides to call a “mistrial”. Do you agree or disagree with his decision and what are the reasons? If you were the judge in this case what kind of decisions would you have made on the case, anything different than what Gantry did?
3. At the end of the story, Theo is asked again for legal advice and he sounds like he is exhausted from giving it out? It is clear Theo knows exactly the field he wants to be in when it comes time to pursue. Did you ever have an interest at a young age like Theo did and plan to pursue it as a career?
4. On page 6, Grisham writes, “One day [Theo] dreamed of being a famous trial lawyer, one who handled the biggest cases and never lost before juries. The next day he dreamed of being a great judge, noted for his wisdom and fairness.” Now that you have learned about Theo, for which career do you think he is best suited? Was there a moment in time you can remember when you knew what field you wanted to go in?

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Worksheet B

1. Bobby knows how vital he is to the case, but also how risky it is by jeopardizing his own future in the US, is there such a thing as releasing the information at a perfect time? If you were Bobby when would you release the info?
   1. When granted immunity
   2. When the trial was over
   3. Release the info regardless of your own outcome
   4. Never reveal the info
2. Judge Gantry decides to call a “mistrial”. Do you agree or disagree with his decision and what are the reasons? If you were the judge in this case what kind of decisions would you have made on the case, anything different than what Gantry did?

Circle any that apply:

1. Declare the mistrial
2. Inform the lawyers that there is a surprise witness
3. Continue on with the case
4. At the end of the story, Theo is asked again for legal advice and he sounds like he is exhausted from giving it out? It is clear Theo knows exactly the field he wants to be in when it comes time to pursue. Why do you think he wants to pursue a career in the law?

Circle all that apply

1. He likes to help people
2. He understand the law
3. His parents are forcing him to
4. He likes the atmosphere of a courtroom
5. On page 6, Grisham writes, “One day [Theo] dreamed of being a famous trial lawyer, one who handled the biggest cases and never lost before juries. The next day he dreamed of being a great judge, noted for his wisdom and fairness.” Now that you have learned about Theo, for which career do you think he is best suited?
   1. To become a Lawyer
   2. To become a Judge
   3. Or both

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

**Judith Maze**: Mr. Duffy’s secretary