Aphasia Book Club

Flowers for Algernon

Week 7: pages 145-196

Worksheet B

**1.** While Charlie is at the convention, he realizes Dr. Nemur and Professor Strauss are not geniuses (page 151-153). They don’t even know about the current research in their own field. Do you think Dr. Nemur and Professor Strauss are frauds? Or, as Burt says, they are just ordinary people trying to do their jobs?

Frauds Ordinary people

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

How do you feel about labels that attempt to describe someone’s intelligence?

Labels are bad Labels are good

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

**2.** On page 162, Charlie realizes Dr. Nemur had made a mistake. The researchers had not waited long enough to make sure the experiment made permanent changes. Do you think this “mistake” is going to cause problems for Charlie?

Yes No

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

**3.** On page 188, Charlie thinks that if he revealed himself to Matt, Matt would resent Charlie like the people at the bakery did. Do you think Matt would have resented Charlie?

Yes No

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Do you think Charlie should have told Matt who he was?

Yes No

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

**4.** Charlie is building a complicated maze for Algernon (page 188-189). He notices that Algernon will practice the maze without any reward of food or water. But, Algernon will sometimes “throw himself against the walls of the maze, or curl up and refuse to work at all.” Why do you think Algernon is doing this? (**Circle ALL options you think are true**)

1. Algernon is too smart and is bored of mazes
2. Algernon is lonely and needs social interaction with other mice
3. The experiment caused Algernon to be depressed
4. Algernon wants to be free
5. Other reason: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_