

Name:

Block:

SPEAK Study Guide

Answer each question WITH A COMPLETE SENTENCE.

First Marking Period

Welcome to Merryweather High

1. What is Melinda's mood as the book begins?
2. What is the first change of mascot?
3. Melinda refers to herself as two things in this section, what are they?

Our Teachers are the Best

4. Describe hairwoman's hair.
5. How does Melinda say the social studies teachers get their lessons throughout the year?
6. What two wars does Melinda refer to as "TV wars"?

Spotlight

7. What happens during lunch that makes Melinda run out of the lunchroom?

Sanctuary

8. Describe Melinda's art class. What is the room like? What is her teacher, Mr. Freeman like?

9. How might Mr. Freeman's last name work on a symbolic level in Speak?

Home. Work.

10. How does Melinda's family communicate?

11. Describe Melinda's room. Why do you think it looks like this? What does Melinda's room suggest about her character?

12. What does Melinda do with the mirror in her bedroom? Why do you think she does this? What might this action symbolize?

Our Fearless Leader

13. Describe Principal Principal.

Fizz Ed

14. What is so significant about Melinda's comments about Nicole being so strong she can change in front of everyone?

15. Why is it so hard not to talk to Nicole? What is she not?

Friends

16. What has Rachel changed her name to? What new "fad" has she started with all the exchange students?

Heathering

17. How is Heather different from Melinda? Has Melinda always been Heather's opposite?

Burrow

18. How does Melinda use the neglected janitor's closet? Why does she need this room?

Devil's Destroy

19. What new information is revealed about Melinda's past? What did she do that caused everyone in school to hate her?

Blue Roses

20. Who is Melinda's lab partner? Describe him.

Halloween

21. What book does Melinda read on Halloween instead of going Trick-or-Treating?

Name Name Name

22. What is the second Mascot change at Merryweather High School?

23. Describe Melinda's lips.

The Marthas

24. Who are the Marthas? What are they known for?

Nightmare

25. With the introduction of IT, more is revealed about Melinda's past. What do you think really happened over the summer? How does she feel about IT?

26. How is her report card?

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Second Marking Period

Go _____ (Fill in the blank)!

1. Why is the third Mascot change happening? What are the options?

Closet Space

2. How does Melinda fix up her closet? Why do you think she does this?
3. What does Melinda do to the mirror in the closet? What do you think is the symbolic meaning behind her actions?
4. What author has the school district banned from the school library?
5. Why do you think Melinda is having difficulty talking?

All Together Now

6. What might be significant about the words Melinda decided to conjugate for her Spanish homework? Why do you think she chose these particular words?

First Amendment

7. Why did David Petrakis walk out of Mr. Neck's class?

Giving Thanks

8. What is Melinda's home life like? What is her mother like? Her father?

Wishbone

9. Describe Melinda's turkey bone art project?

10. What mood does Melinda's art project evoke in Mr. Freeman? In Ivy?

11. How do you think Melinda's art project symbolically reflects her inner feelings? Explain your answer.

Peeled and Cored

12. What memory does the apple evoke for Melinda?

13. How does this memory contrast with her present situation?

First Amendment, Second Verse

14. Why does David Petrakis video his social studies class?

Wombats Rule!

15. What is the third mascot change?

Winter Break

16. Why is Melinda so overwhelmed by the Christmas gift her parents gave her?

Dead Frogs

17. Why do you think Melinda passes out while dissecting the frog?

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Third Marking Period

Death of the Wombat

18. What is the fourth mascot change?

Cold Weather and Buses

19. Why do you think Melinda compares herself to a bunny rabbit when she encounters Andy Evans on the street?

20. In what ways is her behavior rabbit like?

21. Why do you think Melinda responds in this fashion to Andy's appearance?

Lunch Doom

22. What does Heather tell Melinda at lunch? Why?

23. Do you think Heather did the right thing? Defend your answer.

Cutting out Hearts

24. Who gives Melinda a Valentine card on Valentine's Day?

25. Who is the only person who Melinda speaks to?

Our Lady of the Waiting Room

26. Why do you think Melinda was drawn to the hospital?

Picasso

27. How does Melinda's tree art reflect her inner emotions?

28. How does Melinda's tree art progress throughout the novel?

29. What artistic techniques does Melinda employ to capture the essence of a tree?

Hall of Mirrors

30. What is Melinda's emotional state like when she is trying on clothes?

31. What does Melinda see when she looks into the mirror?

Riding Shotgun

32. What is Melinda's reward for going to all her classes for an entire week?

Stupid Stupid

33. What is Melinda's conflict over the party David is throwing at his house to celebrate the basketball victory?

A Night to Remember

34. What was Melinda's initial reaction to Andy when he approached her at the party?

35. What do we learn really happened to Melinda at the night of the summer party? (answer in 5 complete sentences)

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Fourth Marking Period

Exterminations

1. Why does the PTA want to change the hornet mascot to something else?

Spring Break

2. How does Ivy offer Melinda help?

Genetics

3. Why does Melinda's dad take a taxi to the airport?

My Life as a Spy

4. Why is Melinda spying on Rachel?

5. Why is she conflicting on whether or not to warn Rachel about Andy?

Thin Atmosphere

6. How does Melinda warn Rachel about Andy?

No Justice No Peace

7. What lands Melinda in MISS again?

The Beast Prowls

8. What event prompts Melinda to go home, crawl in her closet, bury her face in her clothes and scream at the top of her lungs?

Advice from a Smart Mouth

9. What advice does David Petrakis give Melinda about speaking up? Why?

Real Spring

10. What does Melinda's yard work symbolize metaphorically about her inner life?

11. How does Melinda's raking help the tree? How might a tree work symbolically to represent life?

12. How might a tree work symbolically to represent Melinda's life specifically?

Little Writing on the Wall

13. What does Melinda write on the bathroom stall? Why?

Prom Preparation

14. What happened to the people who were supposed to help Heather decorate for Prom?

Communication 101

15. Why does Melinda finally reveal the truth to Rachel?

16. How does Rachel react to Melinda's revelation?

Chat Room

17. What does Ivy show Melinda in the bathroom?

18. What conclusions can you draw based on the response to Melinda's "thread" on the bathroom stall door?

Pruning / Prowling

19. How is Melinda's mood changing? How is her behavior changing?

20. Why are these changes taking place?

21. Where does Melinda go on her first bike ride?

Postprom

22. What happened at the prom?

Prey

23. Why doesn't Melinda need her secret closet anymore?

24. What happens when Melinda gets attacked?

25. How does Melinda react differently this time?

Final Cut

26. How does Melinda's final tree art reflect her own life? What symbol of hope does Melinda add to her final piece of tree art?

27. How does Melinda's reputation change once the truth is revealed?