

RESTART

by Gordon Korman

Novel Study work

by _____

Discussion Questions

1. How badly was Chase injured? How can you tell? Reread the first three pages to find text evidence.
2. What has Chase been able to figure out so far about his life? Make a list.
3. What does Chase see that makes him wonder, "What kind of person am I?" (p. 12) What might be going through his head?

Discussion Questions

1. Why doesn't Chase's mother tell him more about Shoshanna and why she might have dumped yogurt on his head? Why does she only tell him he might hear "good and bad" (p. 21) things about himself while at school?
2. What else has Chase been able to figure out about his life? Be as detailed as you can.
3. What would you say to Chase if you were telling him about himself? Why?

Discussion Questions

1. How many different narrators have we seen so far? Why do you think the author chose to have the point of view switch between different people?
2. Describe Bear and Aaron using text evidence.
3. How are Chase's mom and dad different?
4. Why does Chase say at the end of chapter 5 that "everyone has a slightly different version" of who he is? Who do you think is the real Chase?

Discussion Questions

1. Why don't most of the video club members want Chase to join? Do you agree or disagree with their thinking? Why?
2. What does Shoshanna mean when she says, "What really happened was even worse: nothing"? (p. 60)
3. Why does Chase tell his dad he wants to get back to playing football? Do you think he is being honest?
4. How does Chase handle his memory of what he did to Helene's teddy bear? What do you think this says about him?

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Aaron and Bear keep reminding Chase of the not-so-nice things he's done, like eating cookies from the snack cart?
2. How does Chase view Aaron and Bear now, post-accident? Find text evidence to support your answer.
3. Aaron wonders in chapter 11, "Is the old Ambrose trapped in there somewhere...or is this new nerd-loving Chase the only Chase there's going to be from now on?" What do you think—do you think this new personality Chase has is here to stay?
4. What has Aaron and Bear so worried? What hints does the text give you?

Discussion Questions

1. Chase says in chapter 12 that he has some things in common with Mr. Solway. Explain how Chase and Mr. Solway are similar.
2. Why does Shoshanna say on page 103 that "even a broken clock gives the correct time twice a day"?
3. Who do you think the little girl is that Chase keeps remembering?

Discussion Questions

1. How does Chase's dad's react to Chase playing with Helene at the beginning of chapter 14? How does this affect your opinion of Chase's dad?
2. How can you tell that some of the "old Chase" is coming back? What do you think this will do to his new personality?
3. Why does hearing about Mr. Solway's missing medal make Chase think about Mrs. Swanson's twenty dollars?
4. What do you think happened to the medal?

Discussion Questions

1. Why does Shoshonna's mother have such a strong reaction when she sees her daughter with Chase?
2. Do you think it's a good idea for Joel to come back from his boarding school? Why or why not?
3. Why do you think Chase's apology doesn't make any difference to Joel?

Discussion Questions

1. What do you think it means when the Weber family ignores Chase after he walks into their house at the end of chapter 18?
2. Why does it bother Aaron and Bear so much that Chase seems to be a new person?
3. Do you think Chase was involved in planning the attack in the music room? How can you tell?

Discussion Questions

1. Why did Chase lie about the incident with the fire extinguisher? Do you think this is more evidence of the "old Chase" coming back?
2. If you were a member of the video club, would you have wanted Chase to stay in the club after what happened? Why or why not?
3. How does Chase feel about himself? Use text evidence to help you explain your answer.

Discussion Questions

1. Why does Shoshonna seem to hate Chase so much after what she thought was his attack on Joel?
2. Joel tells himself as he watches the footage of the music room incident, "*This is not who I am. It's just something that happened to me.*" What does this mean?
3. What things make you who you are? What sort of things don't? Why?

Discussion Questions

1. Why does Chase say at his hearing that he can't guarantee he's not the same person as he was when he stole the medal?
2. Who do you think the "new Chase" is? What kind of person is he?
3. What lessons can you learn from this book? What do you think the theme of this book is?