After reading chapter 1, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Why does Mom tell Jordan that Art School would be a waste of time?
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2. How are Mom and Jordan’s impressions of the new school differ?
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3. Why does Jordan’s dad believe a handshake is one of the most important rituals on earth?
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4. Mr. Landers asks Liam to stay in the car and lock the door when they arrive at Jordan’s house. Why does he tell Liam to do this?
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New Kid
By Jerry Craft

Chapter 2

After reading chapter 2, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Why does Liam not have much of a choice when it comes to attending Riverdale Academy Day School?
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2. What event takes place that makes Jordan smile and think “Hallelujah”? Why does this make him happy?
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3. Why do Deandre and his sidekicks, Winston and Eric call Maury, Maury-O? What does this nickname mean?
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4. What makes Jordan feel lost and alone?
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After reading chapter 3, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Jordan states that lunch was fun, but he could have done without Andy. Why does he make this statement?

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2. What type of diversity does Jordan find in his new school?

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3. Jordan feels awkward when he is speaking to Kirk outside and Liam is still in the car. Why is this interaction awkward?

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4. What deal does Jordan make with his dad? How do you think mom will respond to this deal?

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New Kid  
By Jerry Craft

After reading chapter 4, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Jordan states that when he rides the bus to school he has to be like a chameleon. What does this simile mean? Explain.
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2. In your opinion, why does Jordan’s new teacher keep calling him by the wrong name?
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3. What differences are there between Jordan and Maury?
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4. Who are the “Three Horsemen of the Apocalypse”? Infer why this name might fit them.
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After reading chapter 5, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Do you believe that sports are an important part of school? Why or why not?
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2. Coach approaches Jordan before the soccer game and makes a few uncomfortable comments. What comments are made? Do you believe the coach means to be insensitive?
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3. What does Jordan mean when he says, “we were beaten like a bunch of eggs”?
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After reading chapter 6, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Why does Jordan tell Drew he really doesn’t want to be Andy’s friend anyway?

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2. Drew doesn’t want to worry his grandmother with how he feels about school. What bothers him about school?

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3. In what ways do things escalate for Drew? How do you handle situations when they seem to be getting out of control?

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4. What obstacles does Jordan face daily at school? Are his obstacles similar to ones you might face? Explain.

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After reading chapter 7, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Why couldn't Gran'Pa answer any of Jordan's phone calls?

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2. Jordan explains to his Gran'Pa all about the friends that he is making at his new school. How does he describe them?

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3. Give two pieces of evidence from the text that support mom's photo taking ability is a "Tale of Terror".

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4. What is meant by the metaphor that Gran'Pa makes about General Tso's chicken and pepper steak. Do you agree with this metaphor?

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After reading chapter 8, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. What shocking question does Drew ask Ms. Rawle? Do you consider it shocking or justified?

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2. Explain why the choice in book that Miss Brickner gave to Drew was ironic?

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3. Jordan receives some unusual secret Santa gifts. What does he get and what makes them so unusual?

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4. Why does Liam invite Jordan over and tells him not to “judge”?

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After reading chapter 9, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. What are two of the differences in Kirk and Jordan's school?

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2. Why does Liam tell Jordan that he is lucky to have a dad like he has?

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3. Dad gives Jordan a surprise Christmas gift. What was this special gift and why was it such a surprise to Jordan?

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4. Jordan's dad is very concerned that he is losing him. In what ways does Jordan's dad try to repair his soul?

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After reading chapter 10, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Why does Jordan wish he was Batman? Is he right in feeling this way?
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2. How was Jordan and Drew’s Christmas break different from the other students? How did they feel when the other students were sharing their stories?
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3. Why does Jordan believe art class will be lame? Explain.
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4. Jordan is uncomfortable around Alex. Provide two pieces of evidence that supports this.
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After reading chapter 11, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Kids didn’t want to go out for the baseball team because of Coach Jim Bumdoody. Why were the kids afraid of him?

2. Why did Headmaster Hansen ask the Collins family to leave the school? Do you believe that the school was right in dismissing the family?

3. What is the purpose of a Public Service Announcement?

4. In your opinion, why did the author Jerry Craft choose Oprah Winfrey to deliver the public service announcement?
After reading chapter 12, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Drew stands up for himself when Andy bothers him. What was the last straw?
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2. Why did the other students begin telling on Andy when the teacher thought Drew was at fault?
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3. Drew and Andy are punished and must clean up the mess on the floor. Why do the other children choose to help out? What would you have done in this situation?
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4. What inference can you make regarding the whereabouts of Jordan’s sketchbook. Do you think he has the right to be worried?
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After reading chapter 13, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. Why does Jordan believe the worst thing you can do is call him someone else's name? How would you feel if that happened to you?

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2. Ms. Rawle thinks Jordan's sketchbook is a polemic against everything. What does polemic mean? Do you agree with Ms. Rawle or do you believe Jordan?

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3. Jordan asks Ms. Rawle if she would ever teach in his neighborhood so she could feel special. Do you think Ms. Rawle would teach in his neighborhood?

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4. Jordan changes his perception about art. What makes him change his mind?

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After reading chapter 14, answer the following questions. Restate your question and provide textual evidence when necessary.

1. What was meant by the statement, "Ashley was off to pollinate her flowers with her own sweet, sweet, brand of gossip"?

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2. What was the reason for telling Ashley about Alexandra’s puppet?

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3. Jordan’s character changes at the end of the novel in several ways. What changes occurred?

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4. Describe the meaning of the metaphor, "Friends are like training wheels for a bike. They always keep you from falling down"? How does this apply to the novel?

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