

***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian***

<b>Ch</b>	<b>Pgs</b>	<b>Chapter Title</b>	<b>Question</b>
1	1-6	The Black-Eye-of-the-Month Club	By the end of Chapter 1, we realize Junior (Arnold Spirit) has some challenging circumstances to deal with. What ones did you especially notice, and what does his drawing habit suggest about his personality and desires?
2	7-14	Why Chicken Means So Much to Me	What effects of being poor does Arnold highlight in this chapter?
3	15-24	Revenge is My Middle Name	What is Rowdy like? Why? What is his relationship with Arnold like? Give examples.
4	25-31	Because Geometry Is Not a Country Somewhere in France	How does Arnold react to the book he gets? What does the book represent to him? Why does it hit his heart “with the force of a nuclear bomb” (31)?
5	32-43	Hope Against Hope	How does Mr. P react to Arnold’s behavior? Why? Also, how is Mary like Rowdy? Give an example.
6	44-47	Go Means Go	Compare the pictures on page 43, 47, and 236. The pictures seem to have the same basic message—what is it? Even so, how are the three pictures slightly different in the way they make us think about Arnold’s situation?
7	48-53	Rowdy Sings the Blues	When Rowdy yells, “Don’t touch me, you retarded fag!” (52), the language is offensive. It’s hurtful, ignorant, and crude, but it’s not uncommon to hear young boys talk that way. Why does Rowdy use that language, and what does he really feel here?
8	54-66	How to Fight Monsters	In what ways does Arnold find his first week at Reardan disorienting?
9	67-73	Grandmother Gives Me Some Advice	What’s ironic (unexpected) about the respect Arnold gets from Eugene and from Roger? What are their different reasons for respecting Arnold?
10	74-76	Tears of a Clown	Why does Alexie include this brief chapter about Arnold and Rowdy? What’s the point of the chapter, and what depth does it add to the novel?
11	77-81	Halloween	What’s Arnold for Halloween, and how is he treated (78-9). Also, when Arnold imagines asking Rowdy for advice at the end of the chapter (81), what’s Rowdy’s point? What does it suggest about Rowdy’s attitude toward change?
12	82-98	Slouching Toward Thanksgiving	What examples of poverty are mentioned (86-7)? Also, what do we learn about Arnold’s sister Mary in this chapter, and in what ways are Arnold and his sister alike (90-91)? Moreover, what does Gordy teach Arnold about education (94-)?
13	99-100	My Sister Sends Me an E-mail	What’s the point of including the e-mail from Arnold’s sister?
14	101-103	Thanksgiving	What does Rowdy do when he gets Arnold’s picture? Why?
15	104-113	Hunger Pains	Why does Arnold say, “Don’t give up” (108), and what effects does it have?
16	114-117	Rowdy Gives Me Advice About Love	In this chapter, what’s the implied message about media coverage in America, and how is it connected to Rowdy’s point?

17	118-129	Dance, Dance, Dance	Why does Arnold say, “If you let people into your life a little bit, they can be pretty damn amazing” (129)?
18	130-132	Don’t Trust Your Computer	According to Arnold, what do some Indians think of as the price of success, and why does this create a dilemma—an identity crisis—for Arnold?
19	133-134	My Sister Sends Me a Letter	What do you think is the main point of this brief chapter?
20	135-149	Reindeer Games	In Arnold’s match with Roger and in his match with Wellpinit High, what examples show us his “commitment to excellence” (148)?
21	150-151	And a Partridge in a Pear Tree	Why does Arnold say, “It was a beautiful and ugly thing” (151), and what does it suggest to us about his relationship with his dad?
22	152-158	Red Versus White	Why does Arnold admire his grandmother? Provide examples and consider why some might consider the section on gays and tolerance offensive instead of open-minded.
23	159-168	Wake	Summarize the story about Billionaire Ted. What do you think is the point of that story?
24	169-178	Valentine Heart	This chapter is about death, loss, hardships, struggling with faith, and is about resilience. What tragedy occurs and how do Arnold and his friends deal with it? Give examples.
25	179-196	In Like a Lion	Describe (and give examples of) Arnold’s mindset going into the big game, and explain what Arnold realizes after the game’s over.
26	197-198	Rowdy and I Have a Long and Serious Discussion About Basketball	Offensive words such as “faggot” are often used casually among young teens. In this chapter, how does the use of the word call attention to the kinds of unspoken rules or codes of conduct Jon Katz says boys learn early on?
27	199-213	Because Russian Guys Are Not Always Geniuses	In contrast to Arnold’s other friends, Rowdy responds differently to the tragedy. Give examples. See 210-12.
28	214	My Final Freshman Year Report Card	How did Arnold do, and what does it seem to prove?
29	215-218	Remembering	Why does Arnold cry, and what does he realize about tribal affiliations (connections)?
30	219-230	Talking About Turtles	What does the air conditioner scene teach us about Arnold’s and Rowdy’s personalities? (See 221). What does Arnold’s account of his summer teach us about his friends? (See 227). Even though he won’t really change, what does Rowdy realize at the end?