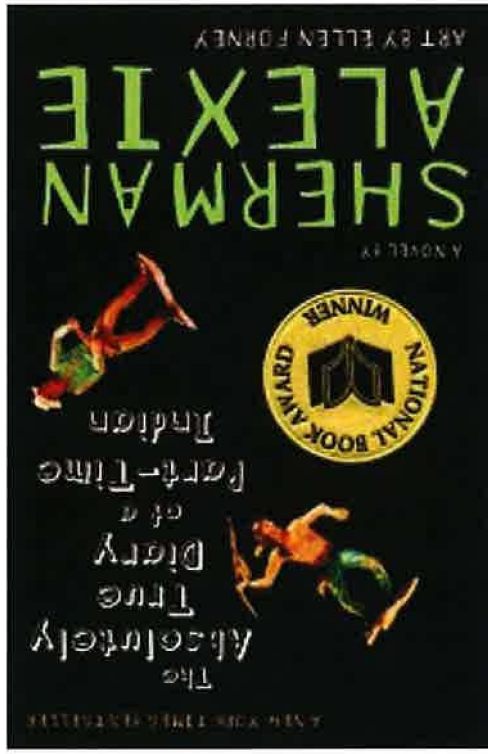


The Elements of a Story: Student Novel Study Notes

Element	Definition	Example From Novel
PLOT	a. Inciting Incident	
	b. Rising Action	
	c. Climax	
	d. Falling Action or Resolution	
POINT OF VIEW		
CHARACTER		
	a. Protagonist	
	b. Antagonist	
	c. Secondary Characters	

Element	Definition	Example From Novel
SETTING		
THEME		
CONFLICT		
1. MAN VS. MAN		
2. MAN VS. SELF		
3. MAN VS. NATURE		
4. MAN VS. SOCIETY		
5. MAN VS. FATE		
6. MAN VS. TECHNOLOGY		
7. MAN VS. SUPERNATURAL		

*The Absolutely True Diary of a
Part-Time Indian*
By Sherman Alexie



NOVEL STUDY STUDENT WORKBOOK

NAME: _____

K. W. L. WORKSHEETS

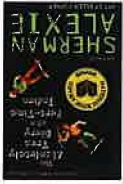
TOPIC: What I know...	WANT: What I want to know...	LEARN: What I want to learn...	"Stereotypes"	"The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian"	"The black-eye of the month club"	"Why chicken means so much to me"	"Revenge is my middle name"	"Because geometry is not a country somewhere near France"	"Hope against hope"	"Go means go"

			"How to fight monsters"
			"Grandmother gives me some good advice"
			"Tears of a clown"
			"Halloween"
			"Slouching toward Thanksgiving"
			"My sister sends me an email"
			"Thanksgiving"
			"Hunger pains"
			"Rowdy gives me advice about love"
			"Dance, dance, dance"
			"Don't trust your computer"
			"My sister"

send me a	letter"		
"Reindeer	games"		
"Red versus	White"		
"A partridge in	a pear tree"		
"Wake"			
"Valentine	heart"		
"In like a lion"			
"Because	Russian guys	are not always	geniuses"
"Remembering"			
"Talking about	turtles"		



Author Profile for: Sherman Joseph Alexie Jr.



- Sherman Joseph Alexie, Jr., was born October 7, 1966. A Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Indian, he grew up on the Spokane Indian Reservation in Wellpinit, WA, about 50 miles northwest of Spokane, WA.

- Born hydrocephalic, which means with water on the brain, Alexie underwent a brain operation at the age of 6 months and was not expected to survive. When he did beat the odds, doctors predicted he would live with severe mental retardation. Though he showed no signs of this, he suffered severe side effects, such as seizures, throughout his childhood. In spite of all he had to overcome, Alexie learned to read by age three, and devoured novels, such as John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*, by age five. All these things ostracized him from his peers, though, and he was often the brunt of other kids' jokes on the reservation.

- As a teenager, after finding his mother's name written in a textbook assigned to him at the Wellpinit school, Alexie made a conscious decision to attend high school off the reservation in Reardan, WA, about 20 miles south of Wellpinit, where he knew he would get a better education. At Reardan High he was the only Indian, except for the school mascot. There he excelled academically and became a star player on the basketball team. This experienced inspired his first young adult novel, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*.

- In 1985 Alexie graduated Reardan High and went on to attend Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA, on scholarship. After two years at Gonzaga, he transferred to Washington State University (WSU) in Pullman, WA.

- Alexie planned to be a doctor and enrolled in pre-med courses at WSU, but after fainting numerous times in human anatomy class realized he needed to change his career path. That change was fuelled when he stumbled into a poetry workshop at WSU.

- Encouraged by poetry teacher Alex Kuo, Alexie excelled at writing and has published over a dozen books of both poetry and prose, and has received several national awards and honours, including the National Book Award and the Pen/Faulkner Award. (www.freeibrary.org, 2013)



The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian By Sherman Alexie



Directions: Each day you will discuss one of the following quotes in your journal. Re-write the entire quote or paraphrase the quote if it is especially long at the top of each journal entry and mark it off this list once you have completed your entry. The purpose of this activity is for you to draw parallels between the book and your life, so approach each prompt not as it relates to the characters of the book, but as it relates to your life. What does the quote mean to you?

Journal Writing Prompts

- "I think the world is a series of broken dams and floods, and my cartoons are tiny little lifeboats." (6)
- "If you let people into your life a little bit, they can be pretty damn amazing." (129)
- "Life is a constant struggle between being an individual and being a member of the community." (132)
- "If you're good at it, and you love it, and it helps you navigate the river of the world, then it can't be wrong." (95)
- "I think all of us are always five years old in the presence and absence of our parents." (157)
- "My school and my tribe are so poor and sad that we have to study from the same dang books our parents studied from. That is absolutely the saddest thing in the world." (31)
- "Do you understand how amazing it is to hear that from an adult? Do you know how amazing it is to hear that from anybody? It's one of the simplest sentences in the world, just four words, but they're the four hugest words in the world when they're put together. You can do it!" (189)
- "Poverty doesn't give you strength or teach you lessons about perseverance. No, poverty only teaches you how to be poor." (13)