

'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' by Mark Haddon

Socratic Seminar

Objective

- To review key elements of the book
- Develop oral skills
- Develop skills in selecting key quotes
- Develop skills in argument and rebuttal
- Develop listening skills

Requirements

- Notes to be made (and later handed in for checking)
- Minimum of 3 contributions to be made
- 3 quotes to be provided in support of each contribution
- DO NOT choose long quotes
- Notes to be done in Times Roman 12 point
- Turn these in at the end of the seminar

Prompts (*choose one of the following two*)

A

Christopher quotes Mother as saying that his behavior would "drive her to an early grave." Citing evidence from the text, show what aspects of Christopher's behaviour are so difficult for his parents to cope with. What effects do these difficulties have on his parents?

B

How does Christopher's way of seeing the world affect his job of narration? How do we, the reader, cope with this? Cite evidence from the text showing both Christopher's limitations as narrator and Mark Haddon's attempts to help the reader understand those things Christopher cannot.

Choose **one** of the above; the one you choose **must be the topic you did not choose** as an essay topic in your exam.

Both sets of notes are due on the first day of the Seminar. Notes, with quotes, must be typed.

Procedure

1. **Ten** students will present their Seminar in a circle; others will be in a circle outside making comments. Those in the outside circle will present the next seminar.
2. Each presenter will have a bank of quotes to support their point, and **60 seconds** for each contribution.
3. Each student will make **three** comments.
4. No student may make a **fourth comment** until everyone else has made their three comments.
5. Each comment must add on to the previous point or refute what has been said.
6. You may go back to a previous comment to add on or refute.
7. There will be one final opportunity for each student to make a concluding remark about the importance of the topic. This will be based on the discussion.

There will be one person timing/evaluating each speaker.

Grading

Rubric will assess

- 1) formal and academic engagement
- 2) effective note taking
- 3) strong knowledge of content.

See assessment criteria on Wiki.

While you are listening to the seminar, use the table below to write comments.

Name of evaluator

Name of student being evaluated

	Evaluate each point for clarity of speech and quality of point
Point 1	
Point 2	
Point 3	
Overall	

Name of evaluator

Name of student being evaluated

	Evaluate each point for clarity of speech and quality of point
Point 1	
Point 2	
Point 3	
Overall	