

Because of Winn-Dixie

Name _____ Date _____

Book Punch – Evidence and Inference

The Evidence and Inference topics and their pre-writing questions are listed below. When you find a fact in the book that answers a pre-writing question, write the page number next to the question.

Evidence and Inference Topic 1

A gentle, friendly animal can be a source of strength and a good listener for a lonely child. In the story, we discover a lot about Opal and her situation as she talks to her dog, Winn-Dixie. Write a paragraph describing Opal's life at the time the story takes place.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 3.)

1. How old is Opal at the time the story takes place? Why might her age be important to the story?
2. What does Opal's father do for a living and what is their relationship like?
3. Why does Opal have neither mother nor friends?
4. What does Opal imagine Winn-Dixie wants her to do?

Evidence and Inference Topic 2

A decision based on necessity can lead to a more complicated situation than planned. In the story, Opal gets a job at a pet store. Her first morning on the job is complicated. Write a paragraph describing the first morning Opal works at the pet shop.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 12.)

1. Why does Opal want a job at the pet store?
2. When Opal and Winn-Dixie arrive at the pet store early in the morning, what do they hear and see?
3. What happens when Gertrude squawks, "Dog!"?
4. Describe Otis's and Opal's actions during the events that occur after Gertrude squawks, "Dog!" and how they take care of the situation.

Evidence and Inference Topic 3

Often, when something terrible happens, people are so upset they tend to blame themselves. In the story, Opal can't find Winn-Dixie. Write a paragraph about what happens when Winn-Dixie can't be found.

(This topic is recommended for students who have read through Chapter 25.)

1. What does Opal think caused Winn-Dixie to run away?
2. Why does Opal feel responsible for Winn-Dixie's disappearance?
3. What does Opal think may have happened to Winn-Dixie?
4. How does Opal react when her father tells her they need to stop looking for Winn-Dixie?