

Name _____

Roslyn English

Summer Reading

Fall 2017

Summer Reading: The Socratic Seminars for *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*

Date: Friday, October 6, 2017

All participants must follow the standard Socratic seminar rules, which are as follows:

- We are courteous
- We focus on and refer to the common text
- We listen to one another, and speak when no one else is speaking
- We share our point of view
- We disagree, but respectfully and with no sarcasm or *ad hominem* attacks
- We learn together

How Do I Get Started?

You will begin this process by answering each of the following core questions, which are based on the principal ideas of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. You should write out your answers or jot down some ideas to organize your thoughts for the seminar.

Suggested Core Questions

1. What kind of learner are you? Thought of another way, under what conditions and methods of presentation do you learn best?
2. The novelist Mark Haddon was very deliberate in not specifying what Christopher's diagnosis might be. Why do you think he chose not to give Christopher's condition a specific label, and what impact does this have on our understanding of him?
3. How does Haddon use language and text structure to give us a powerful sense of how someone with a mind like Christopher's thinks and tries to understand the universe?
4. Statistics say that 1 in 88 children will be diagnosed as being on the autism spectrum. This suggests that most of us either struggle with these issues ourselves or know someone who does. Based on these experiences, what have you come to learn about autism and

the ways in which people on the spectrum are treated in our society?