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Why can Meg and Calvin not feel each other's hands? In order to continue enjoying our site, we ask that you confirm your identity as a human. Thank you very much for your cooperation. The novel begins on a "dark and stormy night" with Meg Murry sitting in her attic bedroom contemplating the events of the day. She is feeling sore because she was dropped to the lowest section in her grade, teased by other girls in her class, and drawn into a fight when another boy made disparaging remarks about her youngest brother. As she sits in the attic she can't help but think about her missing Father and the "smugly vicious gossip" that surrounds his disappearance. She looks at herself in the mirror, takes in her glasses and braces on her teeth, and feels very alone on the stormy night of the hurricane. Downstairs, she hears her dog, Fortinbras, barking and worries that its the "tramp" she had heard about that has been roaming the town, stealing from the townspeople. She wanders around the house, suffers a bruise from bumping into a ping-pong table, visits her sleeping twin brothers, Denny and Sandy, before finding her youngest brother, Charles Wallace sitting at the kitchen table drinking milk and eating jam and bread. Charles Wallace tells her that he had been expecting her and Meg wonders how he could "always know about her" and how he could probe her and her mother's mind with "frightening accuracy." Meg relates how many people assume that Charles Wallace was dumb, or slow, because he hadn't started speaking until he was four years old. Meg's father had told her that both she and Charles Wallace were special, and that their development would proceed at a different pace than others. When Charles Wallace did begin to speak, he used full sentences and had a very extensive vocabulary. Their mother joins the two children in the kitchen and Charles Wallace makes some cocoa and sandwiches for them. Mrs. Murry, who Meg describes as "a scientist and a beauty," looks at her bruised face from the fight and Meg tells her about how badly she'd hurt the boy she got in a fight with. Meg complains that "people" always "think it's my fault" and that she was "full of bad feelings." She wishes she could be more like her normal twin brothers and not such an "oddball" or so "repulsive-looking." Charles Wallace tries to make her feel better and tells her that he is going to talk to Mrs. Whatsit about her. He tells his mother and sister that she lives in an old house in the woods that the kids won't go near because they think it's haunted. As the wind shakes the house, Fortinbras stands up and starts growling at the door to Mrs. Murry's laboratory. Meg is sure it's the "tramp," but when Mrs. Murry checks who the intruder is, she returns with Mrs. Whatsit dressed in "several scarves of assorted colors" and "a man's felt hat" on her head. Mrs. Whatsit tells the family that she had gotten "blown off course" and decided to stop by and rest before proceeding. She says she knew it was Charles Wallace's house "by the smell." While fixing Mrs. Whatsit a sandwich, Meg contemplates that Mrs. Whatsit is probably the tramp and that she isn't somebody Charles Wallace ought to be friends with. Abruptly, Charles Wallace asks Mrs. Whatsit why she took the sheets (the crime the tramp had been charged with) and she tells it was because she "needed them" and that she's "used them" so they can't be returned. Meg thinks to herself that Mrs. Whatsit is no good, and Mrs. Whatsit then tells Charles Wallace to tell his sister that "I'm all right" and that her "intentions are good." When Mrs. Whatsit asks for help getting her boots off, Mrs. Murry helps but they all take a tumble during the effort and water spills all over the floor. Mrs. Whatsit, not physically hurt, says that she has nonetheless sprained her dignity. After finishing her sandwich, Mrs. Whatsit gets up to leave. While she is putting on her boots she looks at Mrs. Murry and tells here that "there is such a thing as a tesseract." Mrs. Murry is shocked, since she hadn't said anything. To herself, Mrs. Murry wonders, "How could she have known?" Analysis The first chapter of L'Engle's book introduces us to the main characters of the novel and sets up the principal conflicts that each must surmount in the course of their respective journeys. For Meg, no doubt the main character, her conflict involves rising above her seemingly low self-esteem to embrace her own idiosyncrasy and unique abilities. Here we see all the hints of foreshadowing that will unite to incite her towards adventure and discovery - her melancholy feelings at lacking a father, her separation from other students her age, and a feeling of being unsettled in the real world. Meg certainly wishes she could be more like her younger twin brothers, who are both described as B students, athletic, and clearly part of the crowd at school that easily fits in. The contrast between Meg's feelings of inferiority and her brothers' successful ability to conform will ultimately pose a key theme of the novel. According to L'Engle, conformity inevitably destroys the fabric of a society - and thus Meg comes to stand as a last remnant of individualism, initially weakened but ultimately emboldened. The setting of the first chapter also offers meaning. L'Engle contrasts the brightness, warmth, and comfort of the Murry house with the storm that is raging outside. L'Engle will often contrast bright and warmth with cold and dark, implying that the Murrys' environment represents goodness and positive energy while the outside world suggests danger, evil, and hostility. Charles Wallace and Mrs. Whatsit are also characters that will further develop as the novel evolves, but for now L'Engle uses these characters to contrast the ability to flourish in one's own environment against the constricting nature of conformity. Though Charles Wallace is considered strange, the reader can see that within the walls of the Murry household, he wields special gifts and intelligence. Though Meg herself feels left out, it is this freedom to develop that will soon become a crucial asset to her and her brother on their adventures. Exploring Chapter 5 of A Wrinkle in Time Quiz • English • 11th Grade • EasyLeondre baptiste1. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION How does Meg's character evolve in this chapter? Meg becomes more insecure throughout the chapter. Meg remains the same without any change. Meg evolves from insecurity to confidence. 2. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION Summarize the key events that take place in Chapter 5. The protagonist discovers a hidden treasure in Chapter 5. A new character is introduced who becomes a mentor. The protagonist confronts a rival and makes a pivotal decision that influences their journey. The protagonist takes a vacation and reflects on past events. 3. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION What figurative language is used to describe the tesseract? Personification and hyperbole. Alliteration and onomatopoeia. 4. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION What is the author's purpose in introducing the tesseract? To introduce a new character in the story. To illustrate higher dimensions and facilitate space-time travel. To describe the history of time travel in literature. To explain the concept of a black hole. 5. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION Make an inference about why the characters are feeling anxious in this chapter. The characters are feeling anxious due to impending conflict and uncertainty. The characters are feeling anxious because they are excited about a new opportunity. The characters are feeling anxious due to a lack of food and resources. The characters are feeling anxious because they are waiting for a surprise party. 6. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION Where do Meg, Charles, and Calvin travel in Chapter 5? 7. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION What is the significance of the tesseract in the story? The tesseract is a character in the story. The tesseract represents a simple geometric shape. The tesseract is a source of magical powers. The tesseract symbolizes higher dimensions and the interconnectedness of time and space. 8. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION Describe an important action taken by Meg in this chapter. Meg seeks help from others. Meg avoids the situation entirely. Meg ignores her feelings. 9. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION How does Charles Wallace's character develop in this chapter? Charles Wallace develops a strong dislike for others. Charles Wallace remains unchanged throughout the chapter. Charles Wallace becomes a leader among his peers. Charles Wallace's character develops from being socially awkward to showing vulnerability and empathy. 10. MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTION What key event marks a turning point for the characters in Chapter 5? A minor character's backstory is revealed. A new character is introduced unexpectedly. The revelation of a significant secret. The characters decide to part ways. Create your free account By continuing, you agree to Quizgecko's Terms of Service and Privacy Policy. This Study Guide consists of approximately 45 pages of chapter summaries, quotes, character analysis, themes, and more - everything you need to sharpen your knowledge of A Wrinkle in Time. This Study Guide consists of approximately 45 pages of chapter summaries, quotes, character analysis, themes, and more - everything you need to sharpen your knowledge of A Wrinkle in Time. Take our free A Wrinkle in Time quiz below, with 25 multiple choice questions that help you test your knowledge. Determine which chapters, themes and styles you already know and what you need to study for your upcoming essay, midterm, or final exam. Take the free quiz now! Directions: Click on the correct answer. Questions 1-5 of 25: Copyrights A Wrinkle in Time from BookRags. (c)2025 BookRags, Inc. All rights reserved. Embark on a thrilling ride through time with the A Wrinkle In Time Chapter 5 Quiz and test your knowledge! This engaging journey invites you to explore the depths of Madeleine L'Engle's timeless classic. As you navigate through the questions, you will uncover the mysteries of Camazotz and the challenges faced by Meg, Charles Wallace, and Calvin. Each question will test your understanding and spark your imagination. In Chapter 5, the characters embark on a cosmic adventure. They encounter the enigmatic Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who, and Mrs. Which, who guide them through the universe. The chapter delves into themes of love, courage, and the battle between light and darkness. By participating in this quiz, you will gain a deeper appreciation of these themes and their relevance to our own lives. Get ready to test your knowledge and expand your horizons. Each question offers a chance to reflect on the story's lessons. Are you prepared to unravel the mysteries and embrace the wisdom within? A Wrinkle in Time Quizzes - Relive the Magic... Want to know what happens next? Take the A Wrinkle In Time Chapter 6 Quiz to continue the adventure. If you missed anything, revisit the A Wrinkle In Time Chapter 4 Quiz. For a challenge that spans the entire story, try the A Wrinkle In Time Full Book Quiz. In Chapter 5 of A Wrinkle in Time, the characters travel to a new planet called Uriel. They are with Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who, and Mrs. Which. The group lands on a beautiful field full of flowers. Mrs. Whatsit changes into a creature with wings. Meg, Charles Wallace, and Calvin climb onto her back. They fly high into the sky. From above, they see the planet's landscape. They observe mountains and a large black shadow in the distance. This shadow is called the Black Thing. Mrs. Whatsit explains that the Black Thing is evil. It is spreading across the universe. The group learns that it is their mission to fight it. They then leave Uriel and travel to another place. This process is called tessering. They arrive in a dark, cold environment. The children feel uncomfortable and scared. Next, they find themselves on a two-dimensional planet. It feels strange, and they cannot breathe. Mrs. Which quickly takes them away from there. They reappear in a safe space. The group discusses the dangers they face. They learn that the Black Thing is connected to the disappearance of Meg's father. The chapter ends with the characters prepared to continue their journey. They know they must face many challenges ahead. "Wild nights are my glory." - Mrs. Whatsit, describing her love for adventure and unpredictability to the children. "Like and equal are not the same thing at all!" - Meg Murry, expressing her realization about individuality and conformity during a discussion with Calvin and the Mrs. W's. "Only a fool is not afraid." - Mrs. Whatsit, reassuring Meg that fear is natural and acknowledging the courage required to face challenges. "We want nothing from you that you do without grace." - Mrs. Whatsit, emphasizing the importance of free will and the grace of giving versus forced actions. "Stay angry, little Meg." - Mrs. Whatsit, encouraging Meg to hold onto her passion and emotions, which are essential for her journey. "Life, with its rules, its obligations, and its freedoms, is like a sonnet: you're given the form, but you have to write the sonnet yourself." - Mrs. Whatsit, explaining the balance between structure and creativity in one's life. "The heart has its reasons, whereof reason knows nothing." - Quoting Pascal, Mrs. Who uses this to highlight the importance of intuition and emotion over logic. "Do not be afraid to face the darkness; it is only the light you have yet to discover." - Mrs. Which, advising the children to have courage in the unknown. "Experience is the mother of knowledge." - Mrs. Who, reminding the children of the value of learning through experiences as they embark on their quest. What is the main theme of Chapter 5 in A Wrinkle in Time? Chapter 5, The Tesseract, focuses on understanding complex ideas through faith and science. It explores bending time and space, showing how love and courage can go beyond physical limits. How do the characters travel in Chapter 5? The characters travel by tessering, a form of space-time travel. Mrs. Whatsit describes it as folding the universe's fabric, letting them move instantly between points. This method is crucial as they explore unknown realms. Who explains the concept of tessering to the children? Mrs. Whatsit explains tessering to Meg, Charles Wallace, and Calvin. Her explanation helps them understand fifth-dimensional travel, essential for rescuing Mr. Murry and fighting dark forces in the universe. What challenges do the characters face in understanding tessering? The characters, especially Meg, find tessering challenging due to its abstract nature. They struggle to merge logical understanding with a concept defying conventional wisdom. This struggle is part of their growth, learning to trust the unknown and embrace new possibilities. How does Chapter 5 contribute to the overall plot of the book? Chapter 5 moves the plot forward by providing the knowledge and means for their quest. Tessering advances their journey and deepens the narrative's exploration of light versus darkness, setting up future challenges and discoveries. Tagged Literature, Wrinkle Time Create your free account By continuing, you agree to Quizgecko's Terms of Service and Privacy Policy. 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