

Flowers for Algernon p. 310-341

By Daniel Keyes

Comprehension Questions- Study Guide

Name _____

Date _____ Hr. _____



1. What is Charlie's IQ in the beginning of the story?

2. Why do the doctors have Charlie take the tests and race Algernon?

3. Why does Charlie go to Miss. Kinnian's class?

4. What does Charlie see the first time he is given the Rorschach Test?

5. Why is Charlie chosen for the experiment?

6. Before the operation, what does Charlie think of Joe Carp and Frank Reilly? How do they treat him?
 - 1.
 - 2.

7. What do the men at the factory mean when they say someone has "pulled a Charlie Gordon"?

8. How is the television that Dr. Strauss gives Charlie supposed to make Charlie smarter?

9. Why did Joe and Frank send Charlie out for a newspaper and coffee at the party?

10. What is the significance of Charlie's victory over Algernon?

11. In what way has life been unfair to Charlie?

12. Why does Miss Kinnian warn Charlie that he may discover that everybody isn't as nice as he thinks they are?

13. Why do the employees at the factory sign a petition to get rid of Charlie?
14. Why is Charlie having so much difficulty talking to Miss Kinnian and other people?
15. Why does Charlie decide that Dr. Nemur and Dr. Strauss are not as smart as he once thought they were?
16. What is the significance to Charlie of the change in Algernon?
17. Why does Charlie work so hard and feel like time is so important to him?
18. Has life become more fair to Charlie as a result of his surgery than it was before he got smart? Explain your answer.
19. After Algernon dies, what does the dissection show had happened to his brain?
20. Although Charlie knew from the beginning that the surgery might not have permanent effects, why does Dr. Strauss feel guilty?
21. Why does Charlie think Miss Kinnian will laugh at him?
22. Why does Mr. Donnegan say that Charlie has guts?
23. Why does Miss Kinnian run out of the room crying when Charlie returns to her classroom by mistake?
24. Why does Charlie ask Dr. Strauss and Miss Kinnian to put flowers on Algernon's grave?
25. Although life has not been fair to Charlie, has he gained anything from his experiences? Explain your answer.