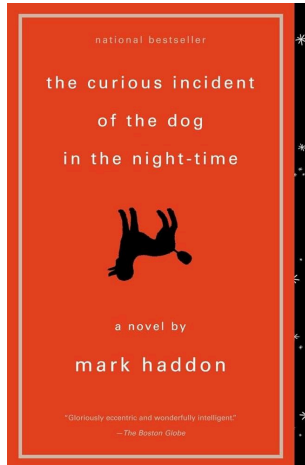


Honors English II Summer Reading 2026



In Honors English II, we start the semester reviewing the elements of a work of fiction. As you read the curious incident of the dog in the nighttime by Mark Haddon, pull out examples (both direct and paraphrased) that answer **three** of the following questions regarding elements of fiction (this includes a & b bullet points):

1. Setting: How does a change in setting impact Christopher? Consider comfort zones:
 - a. When should comfort zones be tested?
 - b. At what point does comfort change to discomfort?
2. Character/characterization: How does Mark Haddon use both direct (what Christopher says about those around him) and indirect characterization to develop characters?
 - a. Consider static (does not change) vs. dynamic (changes)
 - b. Consider round (multi-dimensional) vs. flat (one or two characteristics)
3. Character, part II: Family dynamics:
 - a. Do family dynamics create order or chaos?
 - b. To what extent are family dynamics necessary in raising children?
4. Point of view - Unconventional narrator:
 - a. How does an unconventional narrator alter the tone of the story?
 - b. What distinguishes an unconventional narrator from a conventional narrator?
5. Theme: curious incident has several themes prevalent throughout the narrative. From the following list, which stands out to you the most and why?
 - a. Growing up
 - b. Trust
 - c. Truth, love, and safety
 - d. Logic vs. emotion
 - e. Perspective and the Absurdity of the World
6. Works of fiction contain a conflict, a struggle between two opposing forces. Christopher is our protagonist. Who or what is/are his antagonists?

Each question should be answered separately in the final document.

Please do not work with others, lend anyone else your work so they can “see how it’s done,” or pass on any other person’s work, including ChatGPT, as your own. Doing so will result in a zero out of 45 for all people involved.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Dillingham at sdillingham@stasaints.net

All three responses should be on the same document, which you will post in our Google Classroom by Wednesday, August 12th at 11:59 p.m. The access code is **aegekgs0**
The invitation link: [Honors English II summer reading](#)

If you are new to Aquinas, please email your responses to sdillingham@stasaints.net if you can’t access the summer reading Google Classroom