

English 1, Level 3 (N200133)

Haroun and the Sea of Stories,

Salman Rushdie

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Haroun Khalifa is the son of Rashid, a gifted and celebrated storyteller. When Rashid suddenly loses his ability to speak—and with it, his livelihood and his sense of self—Haroun embarks on a surreal quest to restore his father's voice. The journey takes Haroun to magical places where he makes important discoveries about himself and the significance of stories. Part fairy tale, part political allegory, part father-son adventure, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* is a deceptively layered novel; While playful and funny on its surface, the book holds a serious and urgent message underneath. Use the annotation guide below to help you unearth those layers.

As you read, annotate with the following four lenses in mind. Use the key below to mark passages directly in your book:

- **[?] Confusions:** Mark moments where you feel lost, uncertain about what's happening or why, or where the logic of the world seems unclear. In the margin, write a brief note about what's confusing you. Write a question, an observation, or anything to help you track your uncertainty.
- **[P] Patterns:** Mark repeated images, phrases, ideas, or situations. In other words, note any details that seem to recur across the novel. A brief note in the margin about the possible significance of the pattern will help us dig into thematic material together as a class.
- **[HG] Haroun's Growth:** Mark passages that show us who Haroun is at a given moment. These might include his fears, his choices, his sense of himself. Pay close attention to moments where something seems to shift. By the end, how is he different from the boy we meet on page one?
- **[S] The Power of Story:** Mark passages where the novel makes an argument, directly or indirectly, for why storytelling matters. Why does Rushdie seem to think personal expression and narrative are not just nice to have, but totally necessary?

The annotations don't need to be long; a word or phrase in the margin is often enough. What matters is that you read with an active, critical eye. Happy reading!