Frindle

Overview:
- Length: 105 pages
- Chapters: 15
- Genre: realistic fiction
- Author: Andrew Clements

Summary:
Frindle is a story about a creative boy named Nick who likes to makes class time exciting. When Nick reaches fifth grade, he encounters Mrs. Granger, the English teacher, who challenges him to think about who makes the words that are in the dictionary. Nick decides he is going to make up his own word and renames the pen “frindle”.

Nick does not intend for the chaos that his idea brings about. He first convinces the fifth grade to use the word “frindle” instead of pen. Before he knows what has happened, he is appearing on TV and “frindle” has become a household word all over the country.

The book ends with Nick as a college student, rich from all the money he has made from marketing the word “frindle”, receiving a package from Mrs. Granger containing a dictionary with the word “frindle” in it and a long letter about how proud she is of his accomplishment.

Readability Level:
This book is for a middle level reader.

Supportive characteristics:
- Short chapters: about 8-10 pages on average.
• Large print
• 15 chapters
• Pictures to support chapter
• About a student around the same age as the class.
• Generally simple sentences, some compound sentences

**Challenging Characteristics:**
• Some difficult vocabulary
• There are a few chapters that are lengthier than others.
Frindle

Name _________________________________________
Chapter 1

Vocabulary:

p. 1 – Tropical
p. 3 – jolt
p. 5 – crimson

Choose two of the vocabulary words and define them.

1) ______________________
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2) _____________________
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Questions: Restate the question.

1) (I) In your opinion, is Nick a trouble maker? Why or why not?
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2) (L) Who was really making the blackbird noises in Mrs. Avery’s class?

Chapter 2

Vocabulary:

p. 6 – reputation
p. 11 – acquire
p. 11 – essential
p. 12 – frantically

Use context clues to define two of the words.

1) ______________________

2) _____________________
Questions:

1) (L) What is Mrs. Granger’s battle cry?

2) (I) Why do you think it was called her battle cry?
Chapter 3

Vocabulary:

p. 13 – procedures
p. 14 – sidetrack

Use these vocabulary words in a sentence other than the sentence used in the book.

1) ______________________
   _____________________________________________________
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   _______________________________________________

2) _____________________
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Questions:

1) What does the author mean by “thought grenade”?
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2) Does Nick’s turn out to be the perfect “thought grenade”? Why or why not?
Chapter 4

Vocabulary:

p. 19 – origin
p. 20 – complex
p. 20 – profound

Choose one of the vocabulary words and draw a picture that represents the meaning.

Questions:

1) Make a prediction: What do you think Nick’s “big idea” is going to be? Explain your thinking.

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2A) In Nick’s family, the rule is homework first. Do you think this is fair? Why or why not?

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2B) What are some rules in your family? Do you think they are fair? Why or why not?

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Chapter 5

Vocabulary:

p. 22 – jumble
p. 23 – glanced
p. 29 – reputation

Choose two of your vocabulary words and list synonyms and antonyms for each word.

1) ______________________
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2) ______________________
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Questions:

1A) What was Nick’s big idea?

1B) How did this compare to your prediction?
Chapter 6

Vocabulary:

p. 35 – absorbed
p. 38 – oath

Use the words in a sentence that demonstrates their meaning.

1) ______________________
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2) _____________________
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Questions:

1) Write a summary of the events that occur in this chapter.  
   Be sure to include all three important things that happen.
   ___________________________________________________
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   ___________________________________________________
Chapter 7

Vocabulary:

p. 39 – blurted
p. 40 – emphasize

Give a definition for each of the vocabulary words.

1) ______________________
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2) _____________________
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Questions:

1) Come up with three questions about the book so far that you would like to discuss with the group.

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Chapter 8

Questions:

1) If you were one of the fifth graders in this book, would you use the word “frindle” and stay after school? Why or why not?

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Chapter 9

Vocabulary:

p. 51 – forbidding
p. 51 – rebellion
p. 53 – vandalism

Write a definition for two of the vocabulary words using context clues.

1) ______________________
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2) _____________________
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Write a paragraph comparing and contrasting yourself to one of the characters in the book. Complete the Venn diagram first and use it to help you with your paragraphs.

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Complete the Venn diagram: Compare your life to the life of one of the characters in the book.

Your life

______________’s life
Chapter 10

Vocabulary:

p. 59 – prank
p. 61 – fad

Give a dictionary definition for each of the vocabulary words.

1) ______________________

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2) _____________________

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Pretend you are Judy Morgan, the reporter from The Westfield Gazette. Write a newspaper article telling the story of Nick, Mrs. Granger, and the word “frindle”. This article should include at least two paragraphs.

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Chapter 11

Vocabulary:

p. 68 – mastermind

Draw a picture that represents the vocabulary word.

Questions:

1) On page 67, the author writes, “It was quite an article. Not that Judy Morgan didn’t tell the truth – every statement in the article was completely true. **It was the particular way she told the truth that got things hopping around town.**” What does Clements mean by the underlined statement?

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Chapters 12&13

Vocabulary:

p. 70 – awkward
p. 72 – preliminary
p. 76 – disruption
p. 82 – ruckus
p. 84 - mania

Use two of the vocabulary works in a sentence.

1) ______________________
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2) _____________________
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Questions:

1) Make a comic strip that goes along with the events of these two chapters. Include six events or details from the chapters.

Chapter 14

Vocabulary:

p. 90 – rascal
p. 92 – remarkable
p. 93 – commotion

Use context clues to come up with definitions for two of the vocabulary words.

1) ______________________

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2) _____________________
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Questions:

1) Make a prediction. What do you think will happen in the end of the story, ten years later?

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2) What do you think is in the letter that Mrs. Granger has for Nick? Explain your answer.
Chapter 15

Vocabulary:

p. 99 – villain
p. 100 – endures
p. 100 – oblong
p. 103 – pupil
p. 105 – engraved

Use these vocabulary words to write a short paragraph. Use 4 of the 5 words.

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Questions:

1) Why is Nick rich? Use specific examples from the book to support your answer.
2) What did you think of the ending? Explain your answer. Use specific examples from the book.
3) Do you think something like this could really happen? Why or why not?
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If you could have your own entry in the dictionary what would it be? What word would you make up? What would the word mean? Create a dictionary entry for your word. Include a definition, a sentence that shows the meaning of your word and a picture that demonstrates what your word means.
Create an advertisement for a Frindle. Be creative. You can use pictures and words. The advertisement should make the reader want to buy a Frindle. Include a price for your Frindle product and anything else you would like to add.