

Reading Check Questions

First Marking Period

Welcome to Merryweather High

1. What is Melinda's mood as the book begins? As you read the first section of Speak list reasons why you believe she might be feeling this way.
2. Melinda categorizes the Merryweather students into several groups: jocks, cheerleaders, human waste, suffering artists, Goths, etc. How would you categorize the students of Wando?
3. Melinda repeatedly alludes to an event that occurred in her recent past. What do you think may have happened to her?

Spotlight

4. Why do you think Melinda has such difficulty speaking to Mr. Neck when he confronts her during lunch?

Sanctuary

5. What does the word *sanctuary* mean?
6. Describe Melinda's art class. What is the room like? What is her teacher, Mr. Freeman like?
7. How might Mr. Freeman's last name work on a symbolic level in Speak?

Home. Work.

8. Describe Melinda's room. Why do you think it looks like this? What does Melinda's room suggest about her character?
9. What does Melinda do with the mirror in her bedroom? Why do you think she does this? What might this action symbolize?

Burrow

10. How does Melinda use the neglected janitor's closet? Why does she need this room?

Devil's Destroy

11. What new information is revealed about Melinda's past?
12. Based on this revelation, what do you think may have happened to Melinda?

The Marthas

13. Who are the Marthas? What are they known for?

Nightmare

14. With the introduction of IT, more is revealed about Melinda's past. What do you think really happened over the summer?