

Name _____

I'M NOT THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE

- 1) Summarize Walter's beliefs (pg 65-66)

- 2) Walter lists a couple of things that are keeping him apart from being like the other kids. What are they?

- 3) On page 68 Walter says, "What could Mama have thought of me that year? She had been through so much because of me. I had lied about her hitting me after the taxi incident. I had been involved in a few fights (duly reported by Mrs. Dodson) that upset her. But I had also graduated from the sixth grade at the top of my class and had been put into the special class for bright kids, and somehow Mr. Lasher had convinced the school officials that I deserved award for Outstanding Boy." What type of conflict is Walter experiencing? (Character vs. character, character vs. self, character vs. nature) Explain why you think Walter is feeling conflicted.

- 4) There is strong example of imagery on page 69. What is it?

5) On page 70 Walter says, "Mama kept a short distance from him, almost as if she were afraid of his crying, as if the sudden grief had turned her husband into a stranger. In many ways it would do exactly that." How does grief turn Walter's father into a stranger?

6) After Uncle Lee's death Walter realizes that after someone dies, life goes on. How does this relate to the title of the chapter?

7) There is an example of personification at the end of page 71 beginning of page 72, what is being given life like traits?

8) Walter mentions that when learning about slavery part of him felt that the enslaved blacks had somehow *deserved* to be enslaved. Why do you think Walter felt this way?

9) Walter says, "Although I was a reader, I did not associate books with writing." Why did Walter not connect anything he was learning in school about writers to what he was actually reading?

10) How has Walter's relationship with his parents changed by the end of this chapter?
