

Activity V / Ch. 8

Making predictions helps readers connect with and remain interested in a novel. Real predictions, however, are more than mere guesses. They are inferences based on what has already happened in the book. Take Cassie, for example. When Lillian Jean insults her, and Mr. Simms pushes her down, Cassie is humiliated and angered. Based on what we know about Cassie—that she is sensitive, quick-tempered, and slow to forgive—we can reasonably predict that she will not easily forget the incident, and will probably seek revenge in some form. That is a sensible prediction because we have evidence to support our opinion.

Now, you will make a prediction about the novel. The Logan family has been organizing a boycott of the Wallace store because of what the Wallaces did to the Berrys.

1. What do you think will happen to the Logans and the rest of the African-American community as a result of the boycott?

Consider the following:

- Mr. Granger's connection to the store, his reputation, his attitude, and his words
- Mr. Jamison's decision to back credit
- The actions of the Wallaces

2. Find at least three pieces of evidence from the novel to support your prediction. Be sure to include the page numbers for quotations.

I predict that _____

For the following reasons:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Activity III /ch.8

After Mr. Granger fires Mama, T.J.'s peers shun him for complaining about her. Now, no one speaks to him at school; no one walks with him, and no one jokes with him. He has no friends. Even Stacey puts him in his place by saying, "Now leave us alone. We don't want no more to do with you." (Pg. 193)

In small groups, discuss T.J.'s situation, answering the questions in **T.J.'s Punishment Chart**. You will share your results with the class. Be prepared to support your answers.

T.J.'s Punishment

Why does T.J. complain about Mama?	
Whose fault is it that T.J. has failed again?	
Is T.J.'s punishment fair? Explain.	
As a reader, do you think the author wants you to feel sorry for T.J.? Write your response in such a way that it will persuade others to agree with your answer.	