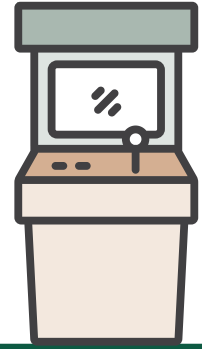


THE ONE AND ONLY IVAN: NOVEL DISCUSSION GUIDE #1



Encourage critical thinking and support your students' literacy development by asking questions during reading. Here are some questions you can ask your readers to engage them in a discussion.

Chapters: hello - the exit 8 big top mall and video arcade

Comprehension

- ✦ Who is Ivan?
- ✦ Where does Ivan live?
- ✦ Describe Ivan's domain.
- ✦ Who is Mack?
- ✦ Who are Ivan's dearest friends?
- ✦ What is wrong with the picture of Ivan on the billboard for Exit 8 Big Top Mall and Video Arcade?

Analysis

- ✦ What does Ivan mean when he says that "humans waste words"?
- ✦ How is Ivan's home different from wild gorillas' homes?
- ✦ Why does Mack decide to show Ivan as angry and fierce on the sign for the Big Top Mall?

Personal Connection

- ✦ Some people think all gorillas are angry, but Ivan knows that's not true. How would you feel if others believed something about you that you knew wasn't true? How would you handle that situation?

Chapters: the littlest big top on earth - the nature show

Comprehension

- ✦ What are some things Ivan has in his domain?
- ✦ Describe Ivan's stuffed toy. Where did he get it and what did he name it?
- ✦ How did Ivan learn to draw?
- ✦ Why does Ivan enjoy drawing?
- ✦ Why does Mack want Ivan to draw?
- ✦ How long has Ivan been at the mall?

Analysis

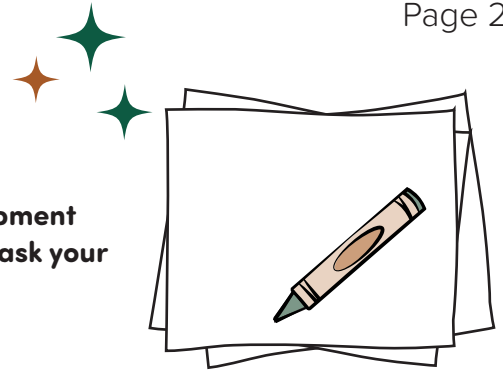
- ✦ Why do you think Ivan states that he learned to not get his hopes up?
- ✦ Why do humans want to buy Ivan's art even when they don't recognize what he drew?
- ✦ What is the importance of the television in Ivan's cage?

Personal Connection

- ✦ Ivan says that even though he draws the same things over and over again, he never gets bored with his art. What is an activity you never get bored with? Explain why you feel this way.

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Encourage critical thinking and support your students' literacy development by asking questions during reading. Here are some questions you can ask your readers to engage them in a discussion.



Chapters: stella - mack

Comprehension

- ✦ Who is Stella? Describe her history and personality.
- ✦ Why is Mack in a bad mood?
- ✦ Who is Bob? Describe his history and personality.
- ✦ Why does Ivan draw a banana?
- ✦ Describe Julia. Why does Ivan think Julia likes to sit by his domain?

Analysis

- ✦ What does Stella mean when she states that "old age is a powerful disguise"?
- ✦ What is Ivan's plan to get more visitors? Why won't his plan work?
- ✦ Why do you think Ivan always looks sad in Julia's drawings?

Personal Connection

- ✦ Ivan respects Stella and thinks of her as a special friend. Who is a special person in your life? What are they like, and what makes them special?
-

Chapters: not sleepy - lucky

Comprehension

- ✦ What does Stella do when she can't sleep?
- ✦ Why does Stella say that "memories are precious"?
- ✦ Who has taken care of Ivan the longest?
- ✦ How do Ivan and his friends know a new animal is coming?
- ✦ How does Stella feel about the possibility of a baby elephant coming to the mall?
- ✦ How does Stella describe a zoo?
- ✦ Who is Jambo?

Analysis

- ✦ Describe the importance of memories in your life, community, and the world.
- ✦ How did the people react when the child fell into Jambo's enclosure? Why did they react that way?
- ✦ Why is Ivan surprised by the way people reacted to Jambo?

Personal Connection

- ✦ How do you feel when you know something in your life is about to change? Explain.