

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian:

Looking back at the novel

1. Judging after reading...

Chose one of the following topics and **write your essay**
(~ 1/2 page):



- 'Most crucial to Junior's success in Reardan is his personal courage and spirit.' Do you agree?
- '*The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* is about the search for personal and cultural identity.' Do you agree?
- 'Before Junior can succeed he must first learn to believe in himself.' Do you agree?
- 'Even worse than the crippling poverty that Junior experiences is his low self-esteem in himself and his culture.' Discuss.

2. The structure of the novel

The novel consists of a diary which mainly covers the span of the protagonist's first year of high school. **Analyze** how the author manages to grab your attention and keep you turning the pages of a book about school life.



For this, **consider** the narrative perspective, the relation between written text and cartoons, content as well as language and style of writing.

3. What is left at the end? - An evaluation

Alexie's novel belongs to the literary genre of coming-of-age novels. Remember, it focuses on the psychological and moral growth of the protagonist in which character change is extremely important. Having this in mind...



- What has Junior learned during the novel?
- And what has he taught the people around him?

Explain what you understand to be the main message at the end.

Sources

pictures: <https://pixabay.com/de/vectors/sch%C3%A4del-kopf-menschliche-m%C3%A4nnlich-2099127/>, <https://pixabay.com/de/illustrations/lernen-denken-schreiben-studium-3222601/>, <https://pixabay.com/de/photos/lupe-lupen-buch-w%C3%B6rterbuch-lookup-389908/>
tasks: adapted from Noone, Kathlee (2010). *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. Teaching Support Kid*. Chicago: Random House. / Becker-Ross, I. und Porteous-Schwier, G. (2012). *Sherman Alexie. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian. Teacher's Manual*. Berlin: Cornelsen Verlag.