**WONDER** 

**CHARACTERS**

For each of the characters below detail if they represent Good or Bad and give an explanation as to why. If they are both include this as well.

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| **Characters** | **Image** | **Good** | **Bad** |
| Auggie Pullmann |  | * By the end of the movie, Auggie has changed the attitudes of many of his peers, including Jack and Julien. * Auggie helps Jack Well, such as with the pop-quiz and science project. | * Auggie often fails to feel empathy for his family, mostly with Via. |
| Isabel Pullman |  | * Has nurtured Auggie and has been there for him. * Also a significant figure in Via’s life. * Is determined to rekindle relationship with Via, when she lets her stay home for Halloween (even though this isn’t fully realised due to her having to go and pick up Auggie). | * Despite being determined to have a good relationship with Via, she usually neglects her for Auggie. * She also acts as a helicopter parent to Auggie, which isn’t inherently bad but leads to conflict. |
| Nate Pullman |  | * Supportive of Auggie and his ambitions, and is also playful around Auggie’s friends. * Helps Auggie get out of his comfort zone (although not initially), such as when he hid Auggie’s helmet. | * Spends more time with Auggie than with Via. |
| Via Pullman |  | * Comforts Auggie in some later scenes. | * Compares her experiences to Auggie’s, which are completely different. |
| Mr. Tushman |  | * One of the only people at the school that treats Auggie normally without getting to know him. * Makes himself the butt of the joke because of his surname, which comforts Auggie. * Does the right thing by suspending Julien, but not making the punishment too harsh. |  |
| Mr. Browne |  | * Motivates his class using precepts. | * Puts people on the spot when asking questions (not really *bad)* |
| Justin |  | * Comforts and hangs out with Via, even after she lied to him. |  |
| Miranda |  | * Eventually changes back to not caring about her popularity and enjoying time with the Pullman family. | * Initially cared about her popularity too much and stopped hanging out with Via because she wasn’t popular. * Lying about her family to be popular (basically stealing Via’s identity) |
| Jack Will |  | * Auggie’s first friend, and the first kid to treat him nicely at school. | * Said bad things behind Auggie’s back to not be an outcast with his friend group. |
| Summer |  | * Sits with Auggie despite not knowing him and despite all of the negative rumours about him. * Doesn’t care about the rumours associated with Auggie and just wants to be his friend. * Comforts Auggie after hearing what Jack said about him on Halloween. |  |
| Julian |  | * Realises his mistakes and is sorry for them by the end of the film. | * Picks on Auggie. * Sends death threats to Auggie. * Photoshops Auggie out of a photo. * Mocks and acts intrusively about Auggie’s face. |
| Charlotte |  | * Guided Auggie around the school for the first day. |  |

**Relationship Development**

Throughout the movie the characters learn and establish relationships with each other. Auggie learns valuable lessons when it comes to relationships when he goes to Beecher Prep Middle School.

Read the following and answer the questions the best you can after watching the movie.

1. ***In the movie ‘Wonder’ describe what Auggie’s relationship with the other students are like. Provide some good and bad examples.***

Auggie’s relationship involves students distancing themselves from Auggie, usually making fun of him too. An example of this is Julian and his gang, which are comfortable being near Auggie, but usually make fun of him. Some people treat Auggie normally, such as Jack and Summer, who talk to him normally and playfully (in a friendly way).

1. **In the movie ‘Wonder’ what occurs to break Auggie’s relationship with Jack Will.**

On Halloween, Auggie is feeling very happy because people don’t know it’s him behind the masks, and treat him normally. Auggie goes to his class and sees Julien and his friends (including Jack). He listens to them without them noticing. Julien holds up a mask with a deformed face, and Jack remarks that he’d kill himself if he looked like Auggie. Auggie is deeply upset by this.

1. **Whilst this film is based on Auggie, he has also impacted the relationship and feelings of others in his family. Detail how Auggie’s sister Via is negatively affected by him.**

Auggie’s parents mainly focus on him, rather than Via, which makes her feel left out and lonely. This is shown with the quote that is reiterated many times, being “everything revolves around the sun, not the daughter,” showing that everything involves Auggie and not Via.

***What is a guilty conscience?***

Feeling guilty for something you did that you are aware is bad.

1. ***Explain how a character in WONDER shows they have a guilty conscience and detail how they resolve this.***

When Via is talking to Auggie, she compares her experiences of feeling left out to Auggie’s experience of being shunned. Auggie gets angry at her and angrily tells her that his experience is much worse. Via realises what she has done is wrong and becomes less aggressive and gets on Auggie’s level.

**Read about Auggie Pullmann:**

*“ I know I’m not an ordinary ten-year-old kid. I mean, sure, I do ordinary things. I eat ice cream. I ride my bike. I play ball. I have an Xbox. Stuff like that makes me ordinary. I guess. And I feel ordinary. Inside. But I know ordinary kids don’t make other ordinary kids run away screaming in playgrounds. Here’s what I think: the only reason I’m not ordinary is that no one else sees me that way.*

*But I’m kind of used to how I look by now. I know how to pretend I don’t see faces people make. My name is August, by the way. I won’t describe what I look like. Whatever you’re thinking, it’s probably worse.*

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

1. How does Auggie feel about going to school? Why?

Auggie doesn’t say that he doesn’t want to go to school, but he knows how people will act around him if he did go to school.

1. Are you more like Summer or Julian? Explain

I’m more like Summer, because I would ignore the rumours said about someone and hang out with them either way.

1. Throughout the film how does being bullied affect Auggie? Answer this in terms of Beginning/Middle/End.

Initially, Auggie can’t handle the bullying, but keeps it to himself and gets mad when his parents ask about it. Later, Auggie starts to react much worse to the bullying, but he also has Jack Will to hang out with. By the end, Auggie accepts the bullying as natural, but by that point people aren’t bullying him anymore.

1. How did other kids treat him on Halloween when he was wearing the mask?

People weren’t treating him differently because they didn’t know it was him behind the mask. So they treated him no differently to their other peers.

1. Do you ever “put yourself in someone else’s shoes”? What does this phrase mean?

Putting yourself in someone’s shoes means showing empathy towards that person and feeling how they feel.

1. What does this film show you about how we should act toward and treat people who look different from us?

It tells us that no matter what someone looks like, you should always treat them with the upmost respect.

**Ideas of Good and Evil**

**For the following example in the film WONDER detail how it might demonstrate Good or Evil.**

***The first one has been done for you.***

**Example: Home school vs Beecher Prep Middle School**

Being home schooled could be associated with ‘Good’ because it was a safe place for Auggie and he didn’t receive any judgment because of the way he looked. This is also a place where he would receive positive feedback

Beecher Prep could represent ‘Evil’ because it was a place of anxiety, nerves, and a place where Auggie’s difference is enhanced. This is the place where Auggie is bullied and feels excluded.

**Camp (think about what happens on Camp to Auggie and what the ‘setting’ of Camp might mean for young students**)

The camp mostly represents good, as it is a place where the kids can relax and have a break from school. It is also the place where Auggie is confronted by 7 graders, which can represent the evil side of camp; being near people you aren’t comfortable with.

**Auggie’s Face**

Auggie’s face represents evil in that it is what causes Auggie to be treated differently, and much worse, than other people. It may be considered good as it is what makes Auggie special and unique.

**Auggie’s astronaut helmet**

Auggie’s helmet is good, as it prevents Auggie from being treated worse (although he is still treated differently). However, the helmet can also be evil as it shows that Auggie isn’t developing and always wants to hide his face.

**Quotes**

*For each of the following quotes comment on how it might relate to the film and what it is trying to say.*

1. ‘Sometimes you don’t have to mean to hurt someone to hurt someone.’

This relates to the film when people at school stare at Auggie and avoid him. They most likely don’t want to be mean to Auggie, but by avoiding him they are being mean, even if they don’t know it or don’t mean to.

1. ‘Funny how sometimes you worry a lot about something and it turns out to be nothing.’

This relates to Auggie and his family’s fears about school. They worry about all of the bad things that can happen to Auggie at school, but by the end of the film, Auggie is enjoying school. They worried about how Auggie would be treated at school, but it turns out that Auggie made friends and enjoyed his time.

1. ‘Courage, kindness, friendship, character. These are the qualities that define us human beings, and propel us, on occasion, to greatness.’

This relates to Auggie’s characteristics, as well as the characteristics his friends have or gain throughout the film. Auggie is courageous for going in public despite his disability, he is kind to others even if they weren’t initially kind to him, he wants to and does make friends, and he has a lot of character.

1. ‘When given the choice between being right and being kind, choose kind.’

This relates to Summer and Jack, who despite having friends that ignored Auggie, chose to hang out with him anyways, because it was kind. They chose to be kind instead of being “right.”