**Questions for The Perks of Being a Wallflower pp 20 – 29**

**The focus is characters and how an author creates them:**

1. Find your hand-out and turn to page 28-29. In you group, divide the literary terms amongst you, so you each read and write good notes for the literary terms. (it is important that you share a document, so you have notes to this for later)

A character: A person in a short story, play or novel. The author creates characters, and presents the character through a combination of actions, dialogue, responses of other characters and narrator descriptions.

* Character development:
  + A dynamic character:
  + A static character:
  + A round character:
  + Flat character:
  + Protagonist:
  + Antagonist:
  + Minor or secondary characters:
  + Character foil:

1. Taking the first 29 pages of the book into consideration, characterize the protagonist/main character and the minor characters, using the standard analytical terms (round/flat – dynamic/static – inner/outer characteristic
   1. How has the author crafted the main character (Charlie)? (the purpose of this question is for you to apply the literary terms you have just studied in the compendium
   2. What can we add to our characterization of Charlie from the last 9 pages you have read?
   3. Characterize Patrick and Sam.
2. Characterize Bill, Charlie’s teacher. What function does he have in the book? (why has the author created this character?)
3. Give an example of how two of the following five themes are present in the section you have read:
   1. Trauma, abuse and mental health
   2. Relationships and intimacy
   3. Masculinity and violence
   4. Healing and self-discovery through art/literature
   5. Adolescence and transformation
4. **Reading between the lines.**

**Read October 15, 1991 pp. 29-30**

As we have established, characters in fiction are built up by their dialogue, actions, interaction with other characters and thoughts. Read between the lines and discuss what the following statements says about the characters:

The father after he tells the boy’s parents that he has hit his daughter and Charlie enquires about why the boy hits his sister:

He told me to mind my own business. Because he didn’t know and would never ask and didn’t think it mattered. “Not everyone has a sob story, Charlie, and even if they do, it’s no excuse.“ (page 30, ll 14– 17)

**Do you agree? That a person’s past can’t excuse his/her actions today?**