

Guide to **One Fat Summer**: chapters 9–14

Chapter 9

1. Why doesn't Dr. Kahn make Bobby pay for the gutter and flowers that were ruined?
2. What does Bobby do to convince others that he likes baseball?
3. What does Bobby mean when he says that grass is the enemy or that he is prospecting for gold?
4. Do you ever make up games to make ordinary activities more interesting? Explain.

Vocabulary: nauseous (87), continuous (88), demolition (97), sneering (to sneer) (79)

Chapter 10

1. What could cause an ice cream headache?
2. Why does the student say that one must use the plural when talking about Bobby?
3. Why do people make fun of others?
4. Was it proper for Bobby's teacher to laugh at the joke made about Bobby's weight?
5. Would the joke have been worse or lesser if the teacher had made it? Why or why not?

Vocabulary: auction (106), bachelor (106), twitched (to twitch) (108), cooperation (109)

Chapter 11

1. What kind of remarks will Bobby's father not let slip by?
2. Do you sometimes let people say nasty and untrue things about yourself without challenging them? About others? Why or why not?
3. Why does Bobby try to pay attention to the ride while he is blindfolded?
4. What could Bobby have done so the kidnapping did not happen?
5. Why do you think Willie's friends go along with his plans?
6. What do you think Willie's friends think of him? Why do you say so?

Vocabulary: retreating (to retreat) (117), cackling (to cackle) ( 122)

Chapter 12

1. Why does Jim help Bobby off the island?

2. Did you think that Bobby might really die?
3. What in the writing help you to imagine how scared Bobby was on the island?
4. Have you ever experienced anything as scary as what Bobby encountered?

Vocabulary: cramp (134), hammock (129), bloated (129), blurred (133)

### Chapter 13

1. Bobby thinks that Dr. Kahn underpaid him. Check Dr. Kahn's math. Who is right?
2. How much should Dr. Kahn have paid Bobby?
3. Why did Joanie leave Rumson Lake?
4. What is the difference between Bobby's earlier nervousness and his current concern about Willie?

Vocabulary: ascending (138), concrete (138)

### Chapter 14:

1. Bobby's dad may have to take a 20% reduction in pay. If he were earning \$1500 per month before the pay cut, how much would he get per month after the cut?
2. How much would he get per year after the cut?
3. Why did Joanie have an operation?
4. Why didn't Mr. Marks want Mrs. Marks to take a paying job?
5. What was Bobby's reaction to Joanie after her return?
6. Why did he react this way?

Vocabulary: soggy (150), charity (153), jealous (153), bigot (155), prejudiced (155)