

Dugout Rivals by Fred Bowen

Writing Prompts/Discussion Questions

Aligned with Common Core Reading Standards

DIRECTIONS: Use details from the text to support ALL of your responses.

Chapters 1 – 3

Chapter 1 ends with Jake thinking this is going to be *his* year. What does he mean by that? Then at the end of Chapter 3 Jake is worried and thinks, “Maybe this isn’t going to be my year after all.” What happened? Why did Jake’s mood change?

Chapters 4 – 6

Adam seems like a nice guy. He’s helpful and encourages his teammates. But describe Adam from Jake’s point of view. How has Jake’s point of view changed since the beginning of the story.

Chapters 7 – 9

At the end of Chapter 9, Adam’s mom invites Jake to spend the night. Reread that scene. Explain the sentence: Jake stood in the middle of everyone, feeling as if he were invisible.

Chapters 10 – 12

How does the setting in Chapter 10 – the sleepover at Adam’s house – show a different side of Adam? How does the sleepover affect the way Jake thinks about Adam?

Chapters 13 – 16

At the beginning of the story, Jake wants to be the star of the team and he is frustrated that Adam is getting so much attention. By the end of the story, Jake feels very differently. He doesn’t need to be the star; he is happy to be an important teammate. Why did he change?

Overall Question:

In just a few words, write down what this whole story is about (the overall theme or big idea). Explain your response.

The Real Story (The nonfiction section at the end)

How does the information in The Real Story relate to the theme or the plot of the whole story.