

Lucky Enough

By Fred Bowen

Writing Prompts and Discussion Questions

Directions: Use details from the text to support your responses.

Chapters 1-3

What do we learn about Trey in Chapter 1? What does the catcher on the Ravens, Peter Rodriguez, think about Trey's superstitions? What was Trey's grandmother like? How did Trey feel about her?

Chapters 4-6

What words would you use to describe Trey and his mother and how they live? What details indicate this? Compare Trey as a baseball player and as a student. How is he the same? How is he different? What superstitions does he have?

Chapters 7-9

Coach Locke says Trey looks like he "belonged out there." What does Coach Locke mean by that? What happened during the game against the Chiefs that would make Coach Locke think that way? Describe Mr. Kiley. What does he think about baseball players and their superstitions? How can you tell?

Chapters 10-12

Use two or three words to describe Uncle Dave. How do Uncle Dave and Trey's mother remember Trey's grandmother? How are their memories different from Trey's? How does Trey's bumping into Malik and his father at the park change Trey's thinking?

Chapters 13-15

How can you tell that Trey's attitude toward his superstitions is changing? Compare how Trey plays in the game in Chapters 13 and 15 with how he plays in earlier games. Compare how Trey prepares for the test with Cole in Chapter 14 with how he prepared in Chapter 5.

Chapters 16-17

Why didn't Mr. Kiley return Trey's sea glass right after he found it? How has Trey's attitude toward luck changed through the book? Why do you think the author chose the title "Lucky Enough" for this story?

Overall Question

What is the theme – the big idea – of this story? Explain your answer.

The Real Story

Make a list of Trey's superstitions in the book. Then make a list of the superstitions of the ballplayers and coaches mentioned in The Real Story. Which ones are the similar or the same? Which ones are different?