

Name:	

Class:

Extract from Fish in a Tree, Pages 126-128

Mr. Daniels asks us to write about our favorite fictional character - a person we consider to be a hero - and be ready to present to the class.

It's funny how much trouble Albert has with this. He tells Mr. Daniels that looking up a character that isn't real is illogical. Oliver is in his seat listing the names of every superhero I've ever heard of. "...Superman, Batman. Spiderman. Maybe I'll write about him. He shoots webs and swings from buildings. That would be the BEST!"

"Hey, freak," Shay whispers, glancing over at Mr. Daniels, to make sure he can't hear. "We

> don't need to hear every weird thought in your tiny little brain. We're trying to work."

I keep looking around the room. I love

how Albert can't choose one character while Oliver wants to write about everyone. However, I don't love how much trouble I'm having writing about my character. Makes me wish that I were a fictional character.

When Mr. Daniels calls me up to his desk, he's holding my paper. A teacher holding my paper is rarely a good thing. But Mr. Daniels doesn't cover my papers with red ink like other teachers. They used to look like they were bleedina.

Mr. Daniels has written in green and he apologizes for not being able to read my writing. He says that my character sounds really interesting, but he'd like to know a bit more. "Ally, will you read this out loud for me?"

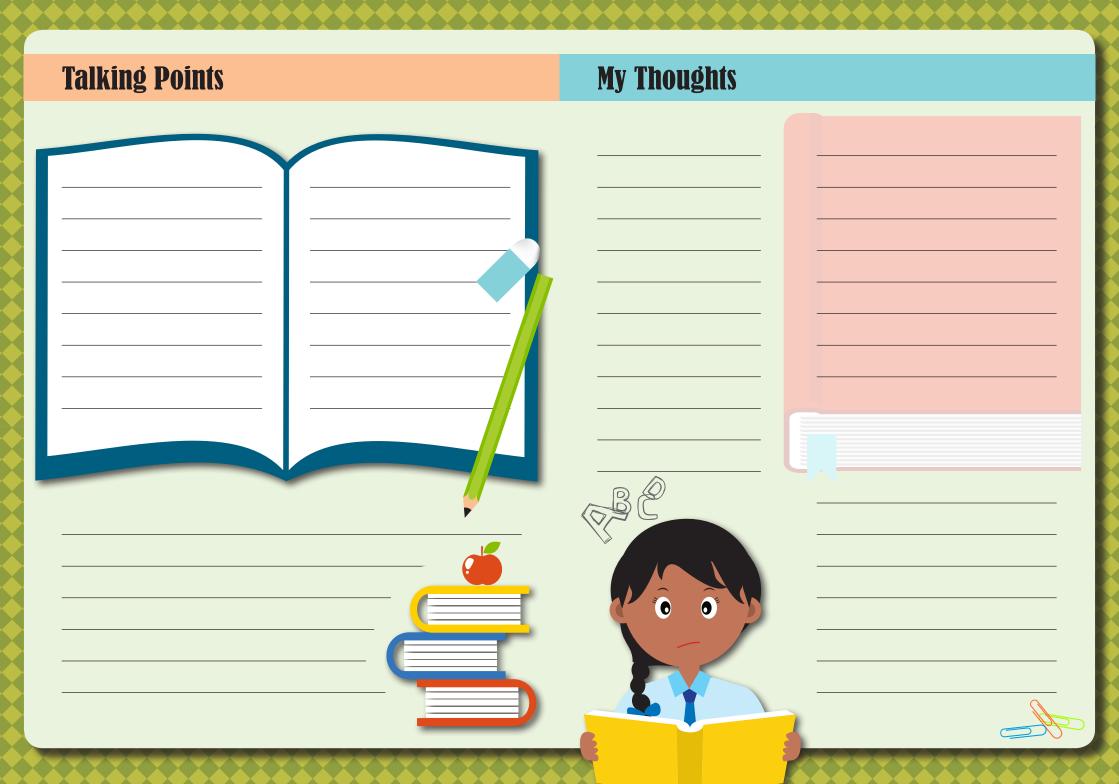
> Uh-oh. I take it, squeezing my eyes into slits. Trying to read my own writing. I wait for him to pressure me to try harder. To do something I can't do.

Think about these questions:

- 1 Why do you think Ally wishes that she is a fictional character?
- 2 Why do you think Ally is having so much difficulty in her work?
- **3** Why do you think Mr. Daniels marked Ally's work in green instead of red ink?



Nancy Paulsen Books, 2015.



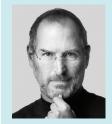
Activity One

Read the descriptions and identify them!



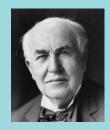
Name

- He was an American entrepreneur, cartoonist, voice actor and film producer.
- He and his staff created numerous famous fictional characters such as Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck.
- He has a theme park that is named after him.



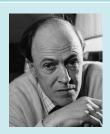
Name:

- Co-founder of Apple.
- His father was abusive and an alcoholic.
- He was forced to quit the company he first set up with his friend.



Name:

- He invented the telephone and the light bulb.
- He started losing his sense of hearing when he was 12.
- He proposed to a girl using Morse code.



Name

- Author of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'.
- He was once a fighter pilot in World War 2.
- He invented over more than 250 new words.

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Activity Two

Below is a passage as seen from the eyes of someone with dyslexia. Try to decipher the passage and write it in the box below.

Onoe udon a tine, in teh m iddle of a tbick forests tood a smal cotte ge. I taws the home of a qret ty Iiitle gr! known toe veryone a s Liitle Red Ridiug Hood, boeause of the brightly cloored co at she wore. One bay, hernother yaveher a voven dasekt full of geligous foob, and said:

" $Gr_n^a d_{ma}^i s_1 III$. $T_a k^e h_e^r t^{hi} s_b a_s^{ko} t_o f c_a^{kse}$, but $de v_{ey}^r c^a r_e^f u!$. D^{on}_t , $st_r^a g_s^f o_{rm} te_{h_d}^{ath}$ $t^h r_o ug_{ht}^h e_b w^o ools$."

Credits: hdp12852011.wikispaces.com/Tina+Soares2

While deciphering the passage, what emotions did you experience? How do you thin beople with dyslexia would feel? Write how you felt during this exercise and think about you could help raise awareness about dyslexia and other special learning needs.					
		-/			

Books similar to Fish in a Tree:

Title: Lost in the Sun
Author: Lisa Graff
Call No.: J GRA

Trent Zimmerman cannot put his sad past behind him and spends his days drawing in his Book of Thoughts. It is only when he befriends Fallon Little, a girl with a scar on her face, that he learns what true friendship means and figures out how to move on.

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Title: May B.: A Novel
Author: Caroline Starr Rose

Call No.: J ROS

In this verse novel, May's good deed for her neighbour goes awry when she is trapped in a tiny sod house in the dead of winter. She will need all the determination she has to survive the cold and be found

All Rights Reserved, Schwartz & Wade Books, 2012. (This book is also available on eReads at www.nlb.gov.sg.)

Title: Rain Reign Author: Ann M. Martin

Call No.: J MAR

Rose Howard is a girl with Asperger's Syndrome, but her father has never had the time for her. However, Rose and Rain, a lost dog Rose's father brought home, are inseparable. One day just before a storm came, Rain goes missing. Rose is determined to find Rain, even if it means stepping out of her comfort zone. Will she be able to find Rain before it is too late?

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