Wonder by Palacio
7th & 8th Summer Read Questions

Directions: Write in complete sentences.

1. Auggie's English teacher, Mr. Browne, preaches "Know Thyself." Every month, he assigns "Precepts" so students can learn who they are. Write down three precepts that Mr. Browne gives to Auggie's class. Then write what the precepts mean to you.

2. The English word "precept" originated from a Latin word, preceptum, which literally meant to accept before, as in receiving knowledge that thereafter guides behavior. There are many verses in the Bible that speak about God's precepts. One in particular is Psalms 119:4, "Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently." Write about one of God's precepts and how it relates to a character in *Wonder*.

3. *"Here's what I think: the only reason I'm not ordinary is that no one else sees me that way . . . I think the only person in the world who realizes how ordinary I am is me."*
   Excerpt from *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio
   Why does August ("Auggie") feel like he's ordinary, even though no one else seems to think so?

4. No one would blame Auggie if he were to decide not to go to school, but he actually wants to go. In fact, by the end of his first day at Beecher, he realizes how much he is going to like it. What things help convince him?

5. Auggie's gotten pretty used to people making fun of him, but how are Julian's actions much crueler than the rest?

6. Why are the bonds that unify the Pullman family so important?

7. Certain sections of this novel contain motifs that call attention to the universe. Via begins her section with, *"August is the Sun. Me and Mom and Dad are planets orbiting the Sun."* Why is the idea of the universe important in this book?

8. Mr. Tushman presents Auggie with the Henry Ward Beecher medal for his courage, strength, friendship, and character. *"He is the greatest who carries up the most hearts,"* he reads. How have "hearts been carried up" because of Auggie? Hint: Think about Amos, Miles, and Henry at the beginning. Then think about what they risk for Auggie by the end.

9. The Bible speaks to the importance of showing kindness and compassion to EVERY one. Zechariah 7:9 says, "Show mercy and compassion every man to his brother." Compare and contrast the outcome of showing and not showing kindness.