

Name:



## Partner reading

The Big Nothing (pp. 161-165)

**Page 161:** Justin's letter tells Duane about his new attitude toward their dad.



Look for:

- details that tell us what's going on with Justin's dad



Read page 161 silently.



Turn and talk with your partner.

### Figurative language

On the top of page 161, find where Justin says his dad has “run the clock out.”

What does Justin mean?

He means that

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### Making an inference

Read the P.S. at the bottom of the letter out loud.

- I did this
- My partner did this

What do you think the P.S. means? After reading this, what do you infer?

I infer that

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## Partner reading, continued

**Pages 162-165:** Justin and his mom get a letter from Duane.



Look for:

- details that tell us who Justin really is
- info to help us summarize what's going on with Duane



Read pages 162-165 silently.



Turn and talk with your partner.

### Characterization

What is one thing Justin does that tells us who he really is?

Justin

This tells us he is

Does this fit with Justin's character?

yes

no

Summarize what the letter said. What's going on with Duane?

WHO Duane

IS DOING WHAT \_\_\_\_\_

WHEN \_\_\_\_\_

WHERE \_\_\_\_\_

WHY \_\_\_\_\_

## Partner reading, continued



Find a sentence or two that tells us how Duane feels about the coming war. Copy the sentence or sentences below.

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In your own words, how does Duane feel about the coming war?

Duane thinks that the war is

and

Fill in the Cause and Effect table below.

Cause	Effect
	Justin eats a Baby Ruth, some potato salad, a popsicle. He has to distract himself. (p. 163)
Justin tells his mom that there's a letter from Duane. He's been waiting for her to open it. (p. 163)	
	Justin's mom gives him a hug. She's still crying. (p. 165)