

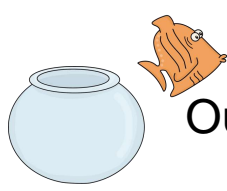
Out of My Mind Novel Study

Out of My Mind

Novel Study



Name: _____



Out of My Mind

Chapter 1: Comprehension Questions

1. How does the narrator describe words?

2. How old is the narrator and what is unique about her?

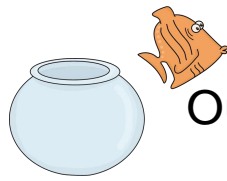
3. Explain what you think it would be like to not be able to speak a single word.

Chapter 2: Comprehension Questions

1. In your own words, describe what the narrator looks like.

2. What is Melody's favorite kind of music?

3. What is the most important thing that Melody remembers, and what is she not able to tell her parents?



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Chapter 3: Comprehension Questions

1. What happened when Melody's parents tried to give her a cat stuffed animal?

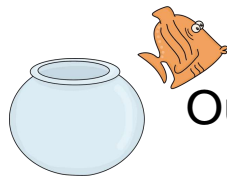
2. Describe Melody's "tornado explosions."

3. What happened to Melody at the grocery store when she was four?

Chapter 4: Comprehension Questions

1. What is Melody's diagnosis?

2. How did Melody's mom react when Dr. Hugely told her she could put Melody in a residential facility?



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Chapter 5: Comprehension Questions

1. Choose two of Melody's classmates and describe them.

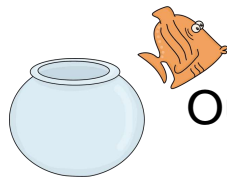
2. How is Melody able to communicate?

Chapter 6: Comprehension Questions

1. What did Mrs. V. help Melody learn how to do?

2. If you had to choose, which would you rather be able to do -- walk or talk? Why?

3. How does Mrs. V. help Melody communicate better?



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Chapter 7 Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Mrs. Billups call Melody's mom to school?

2. How do you think it made Melody feel when her mom snapped Mrs. Billups' cd in half? Why?

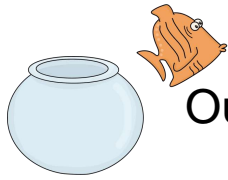
Chapter 8: Comprehension Questions

1. Who is Ollie? Why did Melody think his life was worse than hers?

2. How does Melody compare her own life to Ollie's life?

3. What pet did Melody get when she was eight? Why did she think it was awesome?

4. What would Melody's wish be if she were blown to Oz and met the Wizard? What would your wish be? How are they different?



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Chapter 9: Comprehension Questions

1. Why was Melody's mother scared when she was pregnant?

2. Why were mornings so difficult for Melody?

Chapter 10: Comprehension Questions

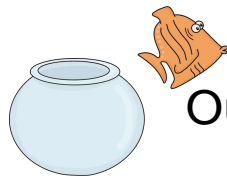
1. What does Garfield the cat have that Melody wishes she could have?

2. Why did Melody get so mad at her dad?

Chapter 11: Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Melody think the music teacher was awesome?

2. What happened that made Melody feel like the rest of the kids?



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Chapter 12 Comprehension Questions

1. What was Melody's mom pleased to find out? Why?

2. What happened when Rose asked Melody how she did on her history test?

Chapter 13: Comprehension Questions

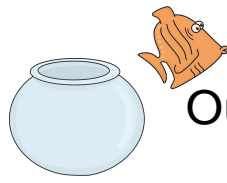
1. Why did Melody get to go to the aquarium?

2. Do you think Rose had a good time at the aquarium? Explain your answer.

Chapter 14: Comprehension Questions

1. What does Rose have that Melody wants?

2. How could having a computer completely change Melody's life?



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Chapter 15: Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Melody compare herself to Christopher Columbus?

2. Why does Melody name the computer Elvira?

3. What does Melody realize as she hears the machine speak other languages?

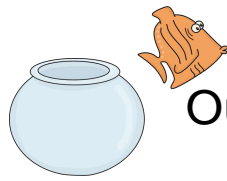
4. How do Melody's parents feel when they hear the machine speak for the first time? How do you know?

Chapter 16: Comprehension Questions

1. What happened that made Melody feel like she was a part of the group?

2. Explain how Claire reacted to Melody's new computer.

3. How do you think Melody feels as she gets the chance to talk to Rose for the first time?



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Chapter 17: Comprehension Questions

1. Why does Melody describe her time at school as almost pleasant now?

2. Why did Melody win a Butterfinger?

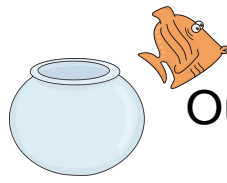
3.. How do you think winning a Butterfinger made Melody feel? Explain your answer.

Chapter 18: Comprehension Questions

1. Why do you think Melody's dad was slightly nervous about her preparing for the quiz team?

2. "Words float easily in my head. But numbers seem to float to the bottom like rocks." (p.165)
What does Melody mean in these sentences?

3. What did Melody do instead of going out for her inclusion classes?



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Chapter 19: Comprehension Questions

1. What question does Melody get asked the most?

2. What response would Melody have for people like Claire and Molly if they asked the question above? Do you think this is an appropriate response?

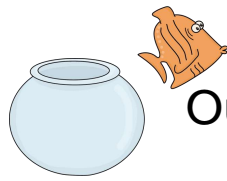
3. Why would Melody be afraid if she could fly? What does this tell you about Melody's feelings towards her own life?

Chapter 20 Comprehension Questions

1. Why wouldn't Melody tell Rose what she planned to do after school?

2. What did Mr. Dimmings do before the tryouts that really angered Melody?

3. Why does Claire have a problem with Melody using a computer? Do you think there is any truth to Rose's response to Claire?



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Chapter 21 Comprehension Questions

1. Do you think Mr. Dimming's feelings towards Melody have changed now that he has graded the tryout test?

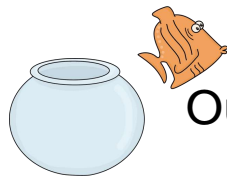
2. Why did Melody have Catherine rush her out of the room after she found out she had made the team?

Chapter 22 Comprehension Questions

1. Explain what Melody means when she says, "There was the team, and there was me..."

2. What did Melody do that made her want to dance even though she couldn't?

3. Why was Melody unable to eat the pizza at the practice session? How do you think this made her feel?



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Chapter 23: Comprehension Questions

1. What was Melody's first impression of the TV studio?

2. Why did Melody like Paul, the stage manager, right away?

3. Explain how Paul helped make the competition easier for Melody. Why do you think he did this for her?

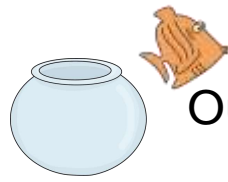
4. Other teams did something special for the competition, like wear the same color sweater. According to Melody, why did her team not need to do anything special?

Chapter 24 Comprehension Questions

1. Explain the rules to the Whiz Kids competition.

2. How does Melody know that this is a really big deal for Mr. Dimming?

3. What does the winning team in Washington, D.C. receive? Do you think that Melody's team has a chance at winning?



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Chapter 25: Comprehension Questions

1. Why is it surprising that Melody got the last question correct?

2. How did Melody react when she found out her team had won the Whiz Kids competition?

3. What does Claire do that really surprises all of the other students on their team?

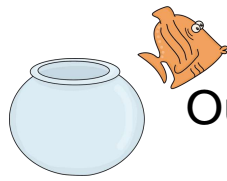
4. Do you think this experience will change Melody's life at school? Explain.

Chapter 26 Comprehension Questions

1. How did everyone's words trying to convince Melody to go out to dinner with them make her feel?

2. At this point in the book, how have many characters' feelings changed towards Melody? Is there anyone whose feelings haven't changed? Explain your answer.

3. Why did Melody leave the restaurant hungry?



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Chapter 27: Comprehension Questions

1. What news does Melody's mom share with her first thing in the morning? How do you think this makes Melody feel?

2. What did the principal declare for the next Friday?

3. Why is Melody worried about the trip to Washington, D.C.?

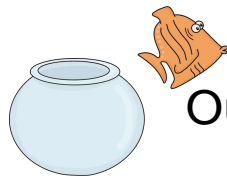
Chapter 28 Comprehension Questions

1. Explain why Melody believes there is so much Claire doesn't know about not being fair.

2. Why did Melody want a card for Catherine and Mrs. V.?

3. What happens when Melody shows up to check in for her flight to Washington, D.C.?

4. Explain what Melody means when she says, "The morning started out like crystal, but the day has turned to broken glass."



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Chapters 29 & 30: Comprehension Questions

1. How does Mr. Dimming respond to Melody being left behind when her mom talks to him on the phone?

2. Why did Melody want to go to school?

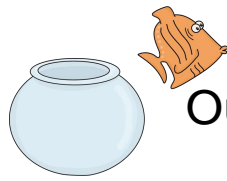
3. What happened that made Melody ache with fear?

Chapter 31: Comprehension Questions

1. Why did Melody think what happened to Penny was all her fault?

2. Why did Melody think that it should have been her instead of Penny? What was Mrs. V.'s response to this?

3. How was Melody's experience with her goldfish similar to the experience with Penny?



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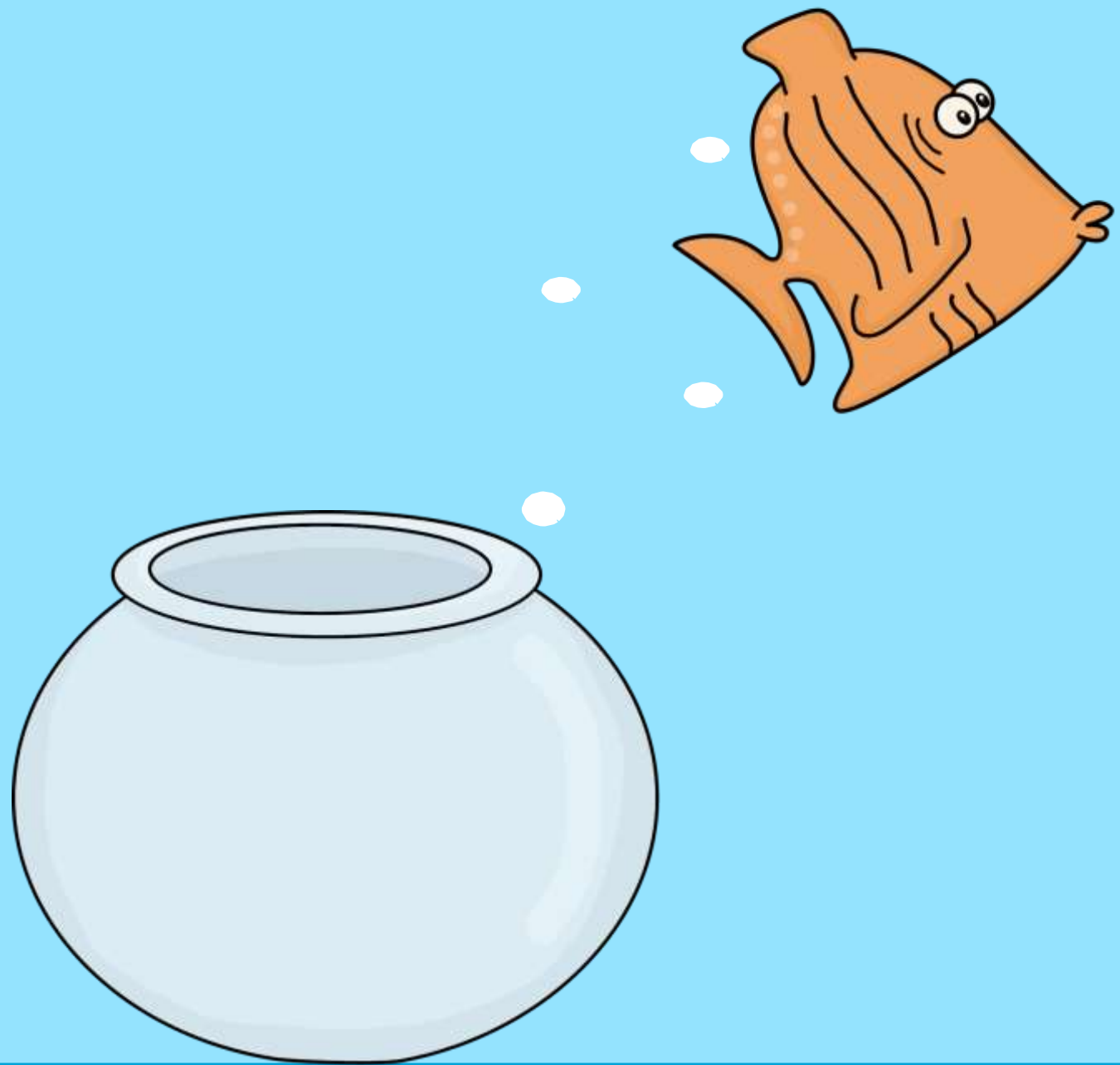
Chapters 32 & 33: Comprehension Questions

1. Why did the quiz team not invite Melody to breakfast before their flight?

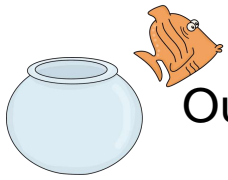
2. What happens to the trophy that the quiz team tries to give Melody?

3. What makes Melody not so different than all other 5th graders?

4. How has Melody changed from the beginning to the end of the book?



Out of My Mind Activities & Assessments



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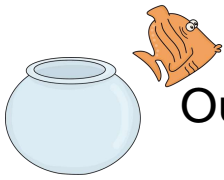
Name: _____

Date: _____

Tic Tac Toe

Choose three activities or questions in a row to complete.

<p>You are a reporter at one of the following scenes. Write the story for the newspaper.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">-Student With Disabilities Makes Quiz Team-Local Quiz Team Wins Big- Big Storm Grounds Air Traffic	<p>Explain how Penny changes the family dynamics. Analyze Melody's complicated feelings about her sister.</p>	<p>Write a letter to one of the characters in the book. What advice would you give them?</p>
<p>Explain how Melody's computer changed her life.</p>	<p>Put yourself in Melody's shoes. Write a paper that tells what it would be like to be Melody for a day. Write about your feelings and frustrations.</p>	<p>Research Cerebral Palsy. Explain the disability. How does it affect someone socially, academically, and personally?</p>
<p>Describe Melody's feelings before the trip to the airport, while she's there, and after she gets home. How would you have coped with the same situation?</p>	<p>Explain in detail the title of the novel. Give several possible interpretations.</p>	<p>Describe the relationship between Rose and Melody. Would you consider it a true friendship? Explain.</p>

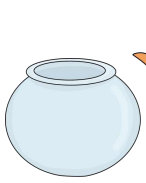


Out of My Mind

Name: _____ Date: _____

Visualization

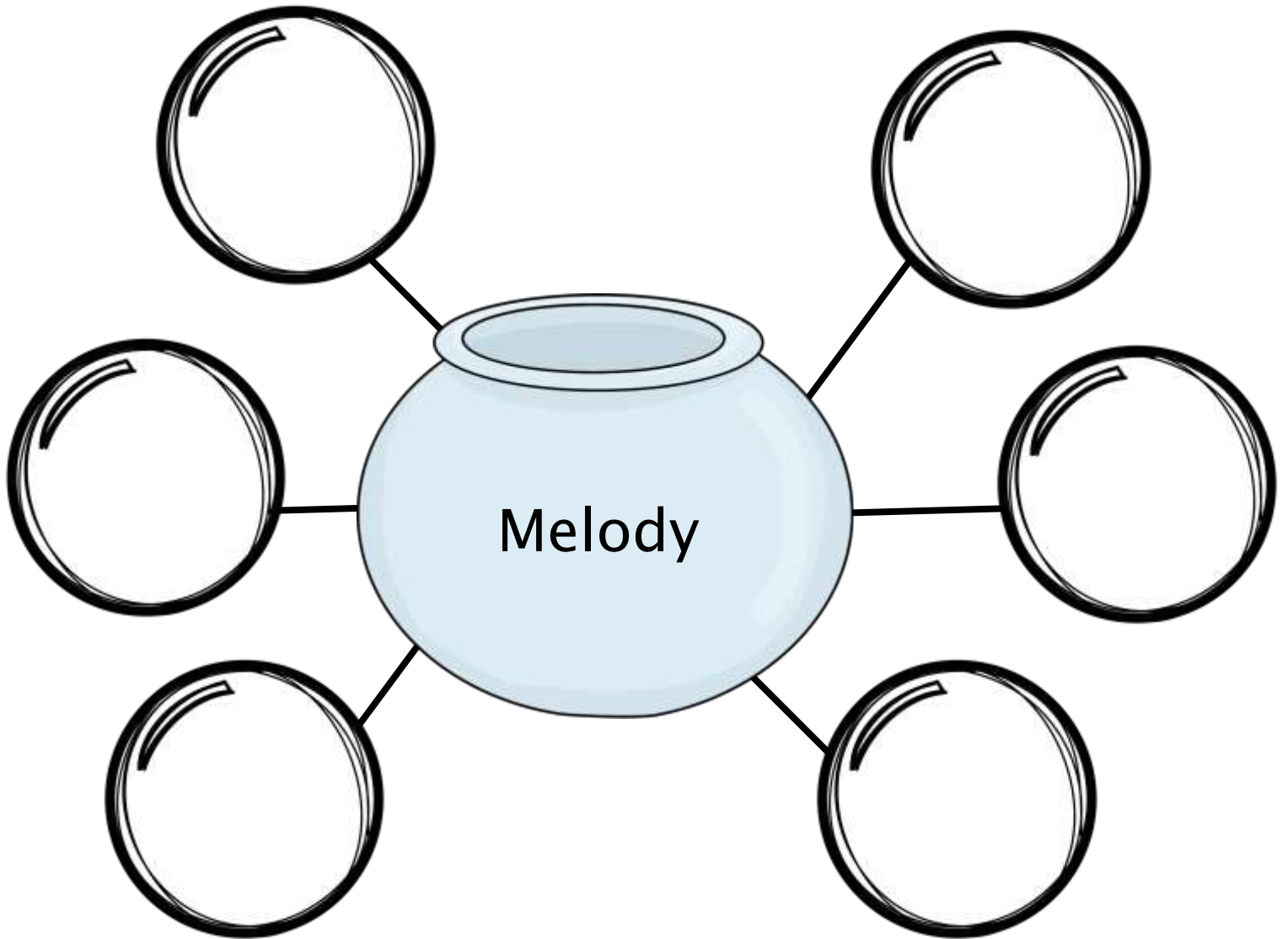
Choose a scene to illustrate. Explain your illustration.



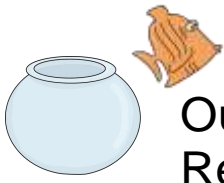
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Characterization

Write words in the bubbles that describe Melody.



Write a paragraph describing Melody.



Out of My Mind Review

Matching: Match the character with the correct description.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| ___ Melody | A. Took Melody's place in Washington, D.C. |
| ___ Rose | B. Played a huge role in Melody's development and helped her prepare at home for the quiz team. |
| ___ Catherine | C. Is almost eleven and has never spoken one single word. |
| ___ Mrs. V. | D. the teacher in charge of the quiz team |
| ___ Mr. Dimming | E. helps Melody at school |
| ___ Claire | F. Seems to be a good friend to Melody, but fails to call her when the quiz team takes an early flight. |

Multiple Choice: Circle the correct answer.

1. What does Melody call it when she really loses control and her arms and legs get all tight and lash out like tree limbs in a storm?
A. a hurricane B. a tornado explosion C. a twister
2. What is Melody's diagnosis?
A. Cerebral Palsy B. Autism C. Down Syndrome
3. What does Melody name her new computer?
A. Eclipse B. Elvis C. Elvira

4. What question does Melody get asked the most?

A. Why do you drool?

B. What's wrong with you?

C. Does it hurt?

5. What did the quiz team give Melody to try to make up for leaving her behind?

A. a souvenir from Washington, D.C.

B. peanuts from the plane

C. their trophy

Answer in complete sentences.

1. What is significant about Ollie the fish? How does Ollie's life mirror Melody's?

2. Why did Melody decide to enter the quiz team competition? What obstacles and fears did she have to overcome to be on the team?
