

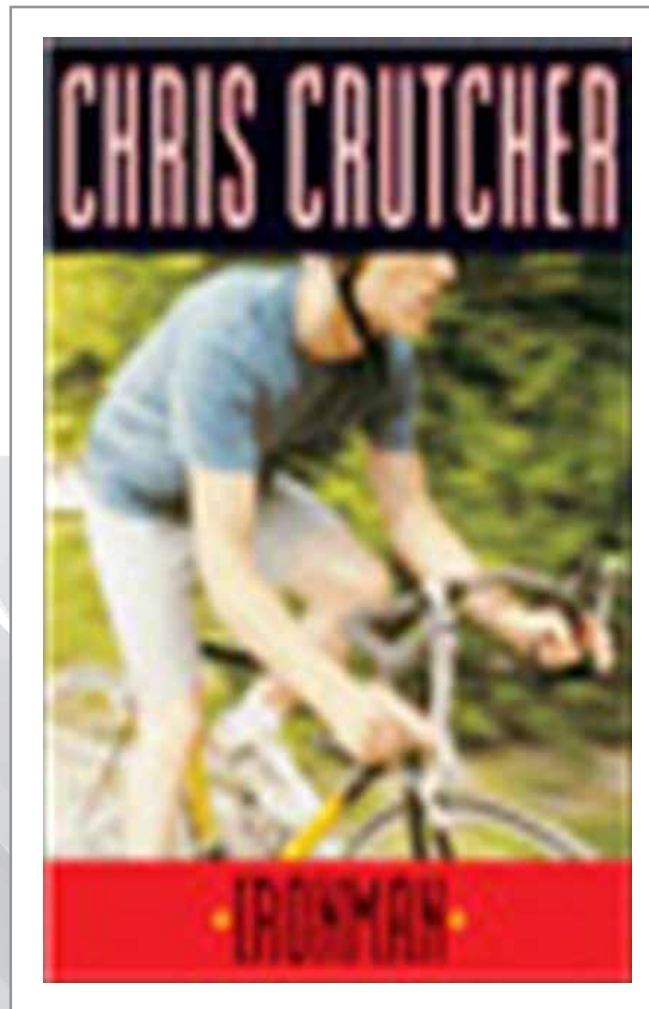


**STUDENT PACKET**

**GRADES 9-12**

# Ironman

Chris Crutcher



**READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT**

# Ironman

Chris Crutcher

## STUDENT PACKET

**NOTE:**

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

### **Chapters 11-12**

1. According to Bo's mother, why did her marriage fall apart?
2. Does Bo's mother blame herself for what her husband did to Bo?
3. Does Mr. S accept Bo's apology for his prejudice?
4. Why isn't Hudgie at the Valentine's Day party?
5. What does Mr. Nak assign for Valentine's Day?
6. What sort of Valentines do Bo and Shelly exchange?
7. What does Elvis's card mean?
8. What message did Shelly put on her card to Elvis?
9. Why do you suppose Shelly is reading the book by Alice Miller?\*
10. **Prediction:** Who will Bo choose as "Stotans"?\*

### **Chapters 13-14**

1. How does Bo use his mother's dogs to help him train?
2. Why does Elvis show up at Bo's house?
3. Why does Mr. Redmond keep asking to see Bo after class?
4. What is Mr. Nak's advice about Bo's fear of Redmond?
5. What is Bo's job at the newspaper office?
6. Does Bo's father lie about the Merlin bike?
7. What "project" does Shuja propose for the anger management group?
8. Why does Mr. Nak go to see Bo's father?
9. Why does Mr. Nak tell Bo's father about the death of his children?\*
10. **Prediction:** How will Bo do in the race?\*

### **Chapters 15-16 + Epilogue**

1. What sort of headgear does Shuja give Bo?
2. Who gives Bo a bike—and why?
3. How does Elvis rescue Hudgie from Wyrack?
4. Who is with Bo's father at the race?
5. What sort of music did Nak put on the tape?
6. How and why did Shuja put Redmond on the tape?

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** An **analogy** is a comparison. Samples:

NO is to YES as OFF is to ON.  
HILL is to MOUNTAIN as STREAM is to RIVER.

I. Use words from the vocabulary box to complete the analogies, below.

adjacent 56  
cerebral 84  
Iditarod 104

verbiage 61  
Spartan 100  
inadvertently 118

tentative 78  
affirmation 101

unruly 66  
juggernaut 101

1. RACE CARS are to INDY 500 as DOG SLEDS are to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. CAREFULLY is to CARELESSLY as DELIBERATELY is to \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ACROSS is to FACING as NEXT TO is to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. UNDISCIPLINED is to DIONYSIAN as DISCIPLINED is to \_\_\_\_\_.
5. POSITIVELY is to CONFIDENT as MAYBE is to \_\_\_\_\_.
6. BLISS is to EDEN as CRUEL SACRIFICE is to \_\_\_\_\_.
7. HEART is to EMOTIONAL as BRAIN is to \_\_\_\_\_.
8. NO is to DENIAL as YES is to \_\_\_\_\_.
9. EDIBLES are to FOOD as WORDS are to \_\_\_\_\_.
10. ORDER is to DOCILE as CHAOS is to \_\_\_\_\_.

II. On a separate sheet of paper, use each of the ten vocabulary words in a sentence.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

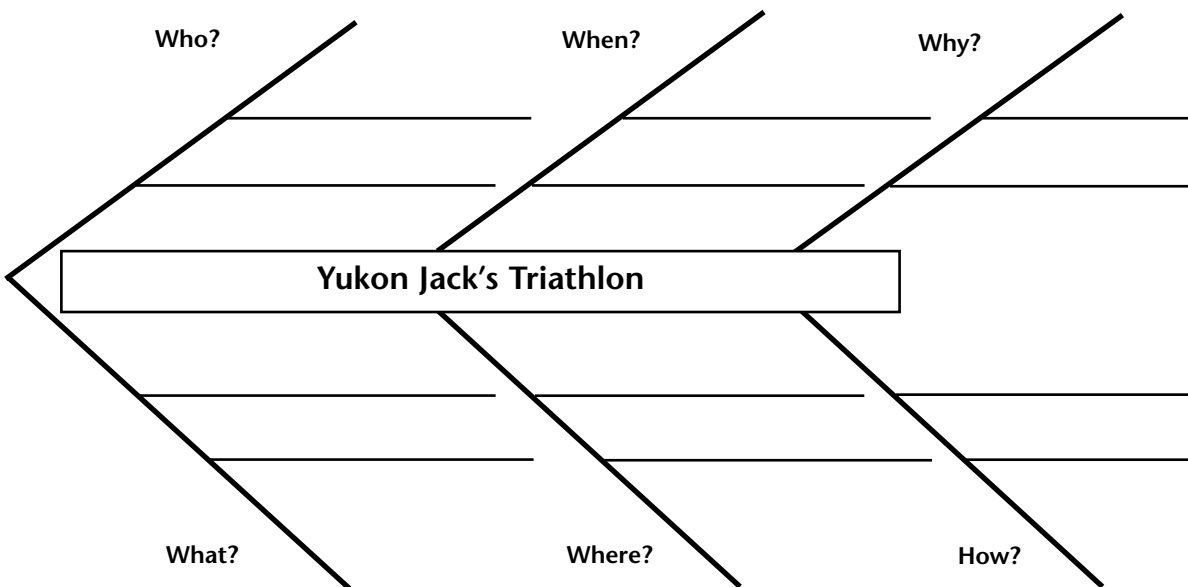
**Project:** You are Bo. Write an article for your school newspaper about the Yukon Jack Triathlon.

**Step 1**

Brainstorm all you have learned about the race from the story and jot down answers to these questions. What is a triathlon? Who was eligible for the Yukon Jack? Who were some of the participants in the race? How did they train? Where was it held? When? How did viewers act? How did the race go? How well did Bo—and certain other participants—do? How did at least one participant use “Stotans”? At the end, how did the winners and others react?

**Step 2**

Organize the 5-W’s and H—who, what, when, where, why, and how—within the following outline. Provide at least two details or facts to explain each.



**Step 3**

A newspaper story would contain certain details that the book does not provide. Make up a list of such details and use your imagination to invent that information.

Winner's name \_\_\_\_\_ Winner's age \_\_\_\_\_

Winner's address \_\_\_\_\_

Date of the race \_\_\_\_\_