

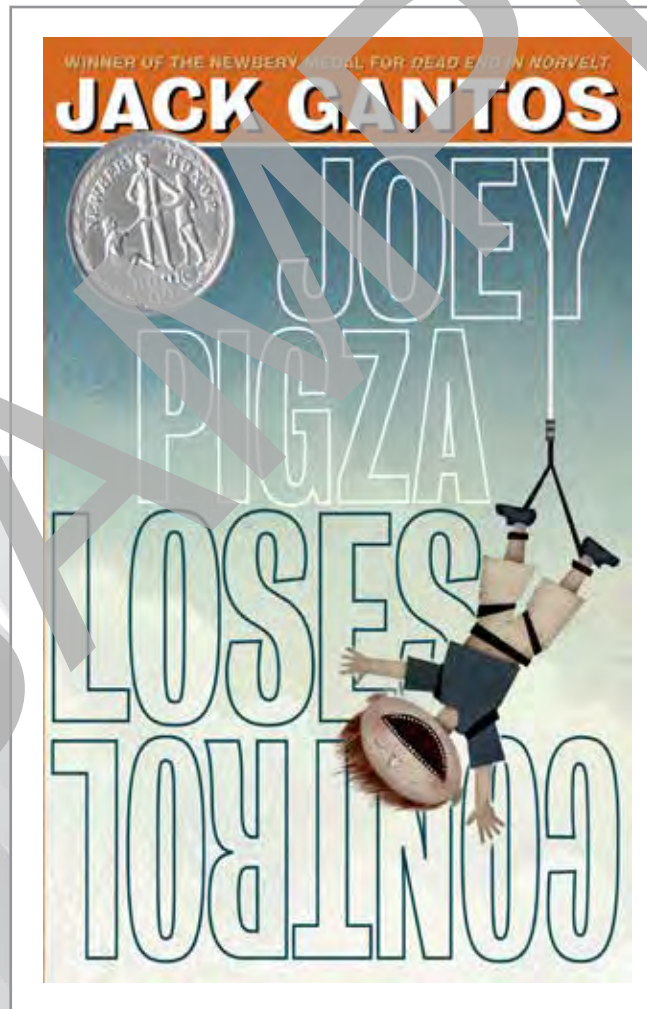


STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 6-8

Joey Pigza Loses Control

Jack Gantos



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

Joey Pigza Loses Control

Jack Gantos

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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Note to the Teacher

Selected activities, quizzes, and test questions in this Novel Units® Student Packet are labeled with the following reading/language arts skills for quick reference. These skills can be found above quiz/test questions or sections and in the activity headings.

Basic Understanding: The student will demonstrate a basic understanding of written texts. The student will:

- use a text's structure or other sources to locate and recall information (Locate Information)
- determine main idea and identify relevant facts and details (Main Idea and Details)
- use prior knowledge and experience to comprehend and bring meaning to a text (Prior Knowledge)
- summarize major ideas in a text (Summarize Major Ideas)

Literary Elements: The student will apply knowledge of literary elements to understand written texts. The student will:

- analyze characters from a story (Character Analysis)
- analyze conflict and problem resolution (Conflict/Resolution)
- recognize and interpret literary devices (flashback, foreshadowing, symbolism, simile, metaphor, etc.) (Literary Devices)
- consider characters' points of view (Point of View)
- recognize and analyze a story's setting (Setting)
- understand and explain themes in a text (Theme)

Analyze Written Texts: The student will use a variety of strategies to analyze written texts. The student will:

- identify the author's purpose (Author's Purpose)
- identify cause and effect relationships in a text (Cause/Effect)
- identify characteristics representative of a given genre (Genre)
- interpret information given in a text (Interpret Text)
- make and verify predictions with information from a text (Predictions)
- sequence events in chronological order (Sequencing)
- identify and use multiple text formats (Text Format)
- follow written directions and write directions for others to follow (Follow/Write Directions)

Critical Thinking: The student will apply critical-thinking skills to analyze written texts. The student will:

- write and complete analogies (Analogies)
- find similarities and differences throughout a text (Compare/Contrast)
- draw conclusions from information given (Drawing Conclusions)
- make and explain inferences (Inferences)
- respond to texts by making connections and observations (Making Connections)
- recognize and identify the mood of a text (Mood)
- recognize an author's style and how it affects a text (Style)
- support responses by referring to relevant aspects of a text (Support Responses)
- recognize and identify the author's tone (Tone)
- write to entertain, such as through humorous poetry or short stories (Write to Entertain)
- write to express ideas (Write to Express)
- write to inform (Write to Inform)
- write to persuade (Write to Persuade)
- demonstrate understanding by creating visual images based on text descriptions (Visualizing)
- practice math skills as they relate to a text (Math Skills)

Name _____

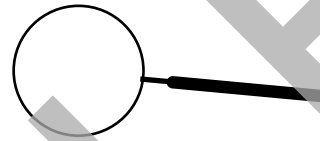
Be a Detective!

Directions: Check out the book by looking at the cover and thumbing through the pages. Then, ask yourself who, what, where, when, why, and how. Write your questions in the spaces below. Exchange papers with a partner and answer each other's questions.

Who?

What?

Where?



When?

Why?

How?

Name _____

Directions: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. Use your answers in class discussions, for writing assignments, and to review for tests.

Chapters 1–3

1. Where does Dad live? Why is Mom taking mountain backroads to get there?
2. What can you tell about Joey and his mom based on their behavior in the car?
3. Who is Pablo? What is wrong with him?
4. What does Joey do with Pablo?
5. What does Mom tell Joey about the possibility of her getting back together with his father?
6. In the past, why was it impossible for Joey to sit still and control his behavior? Why has that changed recently?
7. What is the only thing Joey says he wants from his father?
8. In Chapter 2, Joey describes a time that he hurt Pablo. What happened?
9. Where does Mom work?
10. Who is on the porch when Mom and Joey arrive at Dad's house? What are they doing?
11. Why does Dad make Joey feel nervous inside?
12. Where does Dad take Joey? Why does he want to take him there? How does Joey feel about going to this place?
13. Why does Grandma need an oxygen tank?
14. Where at the park did Dad's life turn around?
15. What does Joey remember about Pablo? Where do they find him?
16. **Prediction:** Will Joey's father be a good or bad influence on him?

Chapters 4–5

1. Why does Joey have trouble sleeping the first night at his dad's house?
2. According to Dad, what will Grandma make Joey for breakfast? What does she really make for him?
3. At what hair salon does Joey's mom work?
4. What is Joey's mom doing when he calls her?
5. Where does Grandma take Joey for the afternoon? What do they do there?
6. Why doesn't Grandma have a handcart for her oxygen tank anymore?

Name _____

Conflict

The **conflict** of a story is the struggle between two people or two forces. There are three main types of conflict: person vs. person, person vs. nature or society, and person vs. self.

Directions: The characters experience some conflicts in the story. In the chart below, list the names of three major characters. In the space provided, list a conflict each character experiences. Then explain how each conflict is resolved in the story.

Character:	
Conflict	Resolution

Character:	
Conflict	Resolution

Character:	
Conflict	Resolution

Name _____

Story Map

Directions: Complete the story map below.

