Identify the **key vocab words** from the prompt and write them below. Make sure you understand what the prompt is asking.

Answer the prompt so you are clear how you will build your thesis/claim.

Find direct quotes/examples from the text that support your answer and explain how they

provide evidence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Evidence | Analysis/Reason it proves my point |
|  |  |
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See sample on the back!

Book: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

Prompt # 4: **Contrasts and Contradictions:** Does the protagonist or antagonist act in a surprising way? What might this change in behavior signify?

Identify the **key vocab words** from the prompt and write them below. Make sure you understand what the prompt is asking.

surprising, contrast, contradiction, change in behavior

**Answer the prompt** so you are clear on how you will build your thesis/claim.

A scene in the book *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie that shows a surprising contrast and contradiction is when the main character, a skinny kid named Junior, punches a rude jock at his new school for teasing him about being an Indian. Instead of fighting back, the jock named Roger acts shocked and then hurt even though Roger seems, according to Junior, “seven feet tall and three hundred pounds” (Alexie 64). **This part signifies** how Junior doesn’t understand the “rules” of social interaction in his new school yet.

Find **direct quotes/examples** from the text that support your answer and explain how they provide evidence.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Evidence** | **Analysis/Reason it proves my point** |
| “Roger and his friends were laughing like crazy. I hated them” (Alexie 65) | Junior is tired of being picked on for being an Indian and gets to the point where his anger takes over. |
| “I struck some fake karate pose because I figured Roger’s gang was going to attack me for bloodying their leader” (Alexie 65) | He thinks that Roger will fight back after punching him in the nose or that at least Roger’s friends will defend him. |
| “I can’t believe you punched me”  “You’re an animal” (Alexie 65)  “I was absolutely confused. I had followed the rules of fighting” (Alexie 65)  “But these white boys had ignored the rules”  (Alexie 65) | Roger acts surprised and hurt. He backs down and calls Junior “an animal.” When Junior threatens to beat up Roger after school, Roger refuses to fight him and walks away. Junior is confused because he thought that Roger would have pummeled him, instead of behaving like a wounded puppy. Roger seems to be afraid of Junior even though Roger is much bigger and acts tough. This is important to the story because Roger actually shows Junior respect after this incident and they eventually become good friends. Junior starts to understand that his new school has a very different set of social rules than his old school. |

Walter Worthington

IRJ #1

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Word Count: 334

A scene in the book *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie that shows a contrast and contradiction is when the protagonist, a skinny kid named Junior, punches a rude jock named Roger at his new school for teasing him about being an Indian. Instead of fighting back, Roger acts shocked and then hurt even though Roger seems, according to Junior, “seven feet tall and three hundred pounds” (Alexie 64). This part was interesting because it shows how Junior doesn’t understand the “rules” of social interaction in his new school yet. Junior is tired of being picked on for being an Indian and gets to the point where his anger takes over: “Roger and his friends were laughing like crazy. I hated them” (Alexie 65). Unable to control himself, Junior throws the first punch and ends up giving Roger a bloody nose. He thinks that Roger will fight back after punching him in the nose or that at least Roger’s friends will defend him - “I struck some fake karate pose because I figured Roger’s gang was going to attack me for bloodying their leader” - but they don't do anything but stare at him (Alexie 65). The reader also believes that Roger is going to destroy Junior but that doesn't happen. Instead, Roger is surprised. He backs down and calls Junior “an animal.” When Junior threatens to beat up Roger after school, Roger refuses to fight him and walks away. Junior is perplexed because he thought that Roger would have pummeled him instead of behaving like a wounded puppy. He says, “I was absolutely confused. I had followed the rules of fighting” (Alexie 65). Roger seems to be afraid of Junior even though Roger is much bigger and acts tough. This is important to the story because Roger actually shows Junior respect after this incident and they eventually become good friends. Junior starts to understand that his new school has a very different set of social rules than his old school.