

# The Last Lecture

By Randy Pausch

While you are reading The Last Lecture, take time to reflect on the various unique thoughts or quotes in the book. Keep journals recording your **1/2 page typed** responses. Complete sentences and proper grammar are required.

ENJOY!

1. pp. 9-10 What makes you unique? What do you alone have to offer others? How would you define yourself?
2. p. 23 “Just because you’re in the driver’s seat doesn’t mean you have to run people over.” Find examples of leaders who do and do not run others over and give specifics from their behavior.
3. Chapter 5 describes Randy’s bedroom. Speak about your own room and the special things that are in it. What makes them so special?
4. pp. 36-37 “When you’re screwing up and nobody says anything to you anymore, that means they’ve given up on you. . . your critics are often the ones telling you they still love you and care about you, and want to make you better.” Think of a time that you were criticized by someone whose opinion mattered to you. Did you realize at the time that the criticism indicated caring?
5. p. 79 “Brick walls are there for a reason, they give us a chance to show how badly we want something.” Discuss a “brick wall” that you have encountered and how you overcame it.
6. p. 141 “. . . a substantial fraction of many people’s days is spent worrying about what others think of them. If nobody ever worried about what was in other people’s heads, we’d all be 33 percent more effective in our lives and on our jobs.” Do you agree or disagree? Why?

7. p. 142 *Start By Sitting Together* – In this chapter, Randy discusses the importance of working in groups. As a middle schooler, you have experience with group work. Which one of Randy's **tips** do you feel is the most important when it comes to group situations and why?
  
8. p. 148 “Experience is what you get when you didn’t get what you wanted.” Tell about a time in your life when you did not get what you wanted and how it affected the rest of your life.
  
9. Randy Pausch does not speak about faith or his religious beliefs. Do you think he believes in God? Why or why not? Can you provide textual proof?
  
10. What did you learn from reading The Last Lecture?

After reading The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch, please read **Three Rules For Living A Good Life** by Lou Holtz.

*There is no written assignment with this novel. However, be prepared for an assignment involving this reading the second week of school.*

Happy Reading!

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