“What, of This Goldfish, Would You Wish?”

Reading Questions

*\*Directions: Answer the following questions using complete sentences that restate the question in the answer. You will use evidence from the text for the questions that ask you to support your answers. Also, you need to use a different text color for your responses.*

1. **Analyze**: Consider how Sergei reacts when Yoni comes to his door. Does his response seem rational (reasonable) or not? How does Sergei’s cultural experience help explain his reaction?

2. \***Analyze**: What does the dialogue between Sergei and the goldfish reveal about their relationship? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

3. \***Infer**: When you **infer**, you use details in a text to draw a conclusion about something that the author does not state directly. What can you infer about Sergei’s character based on the way he uses his first two wishes? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

4. \***Draw Conclusions**: Sergei considers the goldfish to be his friend. What details in the story reveal their conflict with each other? Can their relationship truly be called a friendship? Explain and use evidence from the text to support your answer.

5. **Analyze**: When Sergei realizes that Yoni is dead, he must make a decision. What conflicting motivations must he sort out before he can decide whether or not to use his last wish?

6. **Evaluate**: The last section of the story is a **flash forward**. Readers must infer what happens in the intervening time between Sergei’s conversation with the fish and Yoni’s final report on his video. Is this structure effective, or would it have been better to know the details about Sergei’s decision? Explain.

7. **Analyze**: a theme is an important idea or message about life or human nature expressed through a story’s characters and events. What theme about happiness does this story convey through Sergei’s situation and actions and the outcome of events? (If you cannot think of a theme about happiness, think about any other theme that one can learn from this story.)