

THE CHOCOLATE TOUCH

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SYNOPSIS

John loves chocolate more than anything else. When he finds the magical coin and turns it in at the candy store for a box of chocolates. His never-ending wish for chocolates is about to be answered. At first he enjoys having everything taste like chocolate. Then he loses his friend. But it takes his mother turning into chocolate before he realizes that there are some things in his life more important than chocolate.

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Lesson 1

Chapters 1-2

1. What is John's one bad fault?
2. Why does Mr. And Mrs. Midas want John to understand he needs to eat other foods besides candy?
3. Of all the kinds of candy, which is John's favorite?
4. Where was John going when he walked in a new direction and found the candy store?
5. What does "anxiously" mean?
("It may be measles," Mrs. Midas said anxiously.)
6. From the title and the picture on the cover, what do you think the story will be about?

7. John tells the storekeeper that his mother won't be upset if he has a box of candy. Do you think his mother would mind? Why do you think that?

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Lesson 2

Chapters 3-4

1. What is happening to everything that John puts in his mouth?

2. Why did Spider think John was going crazy?
 - A. John was always teasing his sister.
 - B. John was eating his leather glove.
 - C. Spider was mean and liked to talk about other kids.

3. Susan was mad at John. What did he do that made her mad?

4. What does "suspiciously" mean?
(John looked at the coin suspiciously.)

5. What is the first item that John turns into chocolate?
 - A. Toothpaste
 - B. Glove
 - C. Orange juice

6. Explain how you would feel if the things you put in your mouth turned into chocolate.

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Lesson 3

Chapters 5-7

1. What kind of test was Miss Plimsole giving to John's class?
2. John usually spends his lunch money on desserts. What is different about his lunch this time?
3. John is sorry about Susan's silver dollar and he even offers to play jump rope with her. What does Susan do?
4. What does "reproach" mean?
("I think it's getting worse," he added reproachfully.)
5. John was nervous about taking the test. Put the following in the order he nervously did them.
_____ Chewed on his pencil
_____ Went to get a drink of water
_____ He tried to plead with his teacher
6. All the things turning to chocolate has John worried. How do you think he feels?

7. Do you think Miss Plimsole believes John's story about his pencil turning to chocolate? Why do you think that?

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Lesson 4

Chapters 8-9

1. Where were John and Susan going after school?
2. What happens to John's trumpet when he begins to play his part?
3. Writers compare objects to help the readers understanding. To what does the author compare the sounds of John's trumpet?
4. Choose one of the words on John's English list and look it up and write the definition.
5. What do you think John could do to stop everything from turning into chocolate?
6. John is blaming everyone for his chocolate problem. Who do you think caused his chocolate problem?

7. If you could turn objects in to something else for one day, what would you want them to be?

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Lesson 5

Chapters 10-12

1. The doctor is surprised when the spoon turns to chocolate. What does he want to do with John?
 - A. Study him
 - B. Cure him
 - C. Send him home
2. The storekeeper says that only a certain type of person can see the magic coin. What type of person can see it?
3. What is the storekeeper polishing after John leaves the store?
4. "Proprietor" means what?
(The proprietor was standing behind the counter...)
5. This kind of story is called:
 - A. Mystery
 - B. Biography
 - C. Fantasy
6. If this story was trying to teach a lesson what would it be?

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Answer Key

Lesson 1

1. John's one bad fault is that he is a pig about eating candy.
2. Mr. And Mrs. Midas want John to eat other foods besides candy so that he will be healthy.
3. John's favorite kind of candy is chocolate.
4. John was going to his friend Susan's house when he turned the other way and found the unusual candy store.
5. Anxiously means worried or deeply troubled.
6. Answers will vary.
7. Answers will vary, however, his mother probably would not approve of his having a box of candy.

Lesson 2

1. Everything John puts in his mouth is turning to chocolate.
2. B
3. Susan was mad at John because when she showed him her silver dollar he took a chocolate bite out of it and ruined it.
4. Suspiciously means distrustful.
5. A
6. Answers will vary.

Lesson 3

1. Miss Plimsole was giving John's class a math test.
2. John's lunch is different this time because it has healthy foods on it instead of desserts.
3. Although John is trying to make up with Susan, she ignores him at first and then she laughs at him with her friends.
4. Reproach means a cause of shame or blame, a disgrace.
5. The correct order is 2, 1, and 3.
6. Answers may vary.
7. Answers may vary.

Lesson 4

1. After school John and Susan are heading for orchestra.
2. John's trumpet turns to chocolate when he tries to play his part.
3. In the story the sounds John's trumpet makes is compared to a soap filled bubble pipe.
4. The reader will have defined one of the words on John's English list. Avarice, indigestion, acidity, unhealthiness, moderations, and digestibility were the words on his list.
5. Answers will vary.
6. Answers will vary.
7. Answers will vary.

Lesson 5

1. A
2. The storekeeper said that only greedy people could see the magical coin.
3. The storekeeper is polishing the magic coin after John leaves getting it ready for another greedy person.
4. Proprietor means the owner.
5. C
6. Answers may vary