



HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE CHAPTERS FIVE TO SEVEN

VOCABULARY

Tawny – Having the colour of tanned leather

'None of them had noticed a large, tawny owl flutter past the window.'

~

Tantrum – a display of bad temper

'Dudley was now having a tantrum and throwing his cereal at the walls.'

~

Chortle – laugh quietly or with restraint

'"Little tyke," chortled Mr. Dursley.'

~

Contrary – in an opposing direction

'On the contrary.'

~

Astride – with one leg on each side.

'If the motorcycle was huge, it was nothing to the man sitting astride it.'

~

Astonishing – very surprising

'Privet Drive, the very last place you would expect astonishing things to happen.'

CHAPTER FIVE: DIAGON ALLEY

SUMMARY

Hagrid takes Harry to Diagon Alley to buy his supplies for Hogwarts using the money his parents had left him. Harry meets Draco Malfoy while getting fitted for his robes who he immediately takes a disliking to. Harry then visits Olivander's wand shop where 'the wand chooses the wizard.' The wand that chooses Harry just happens to contain a feather from the same Phoenix that gave Voldemort's wand its feather.

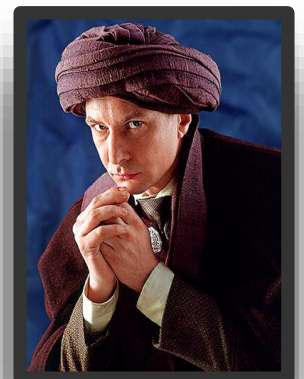
What happens in this chapter?

1. How do Harry and Hagrid access Diagon Alley?
2. What are some of the items on Harry's list for Hogwarts?
3. What is the Wizarding Newspaper called?
4. Who is Professor Quirrell?
5. Who is Draco Malfoy?
6. What is Quidditch?

First Impressions

In this chapter we are introduced to a few new characters. The first is Defence Against the Dark Art teacher, **Professor Quirrell**.

Quirrell seems to make a strong



impression on Harry. What do we think of him?

We also meet **Draco Malfoy**, a boy that Harry is introduced to while getting fitted for his robes. Draco makes a bad impression on Harry because of what he says. What is it that Harry dislikes about him?

CHAPTER SIX: THE JOURNEY FROM PLATFORM NINE AND THREE-QUARTERS

Summary

Harry has an unpleasant last month with the Dursleys where they neglect him even more than usual. Vernon Dursley begrudgingly drops Harry off at King's Cross to get the train to Hogwarts from Platform Nine and Three Quarters. Confused as to how to get onto the platform, Harry is rescued by the Weasleys, befriending Ron Weasley on the train to Hogwarts.

Harry also meets Hermione Granger who seems to rub them the wrong way, and Neville Longbottom who is searching for his lost pet toad. Harry and Ron have an unpleasant interaction with Draco Malfoy who Harry had met at Diagon Alley. Once arriving at the station, the newcomers are led onto boats and set sail for Hogwarts.

What happens in this chapter?

1. How does Vernon say goodbye to Harry, and how do we feel about it?
2. What is our second impression of Draco, and does it change ours or Harry's mind about him?
3. How does Harry get onto the platform? What would have happened if he did not make it?

First Impressions



In this chapter we are introduced to



the **Weasleys** who help Harry to make his train. Once on the



'Aunt Petunia's shrill voice.'

~

Scrawny – inferior in size or quality

'Piers was a scrawny boy with a face like a rat.'

~

Gargoyle – an ornament consisting of a grotesquely or ugly carved figure

'Gulpin' gargoyles, Harry, people are still scared.'



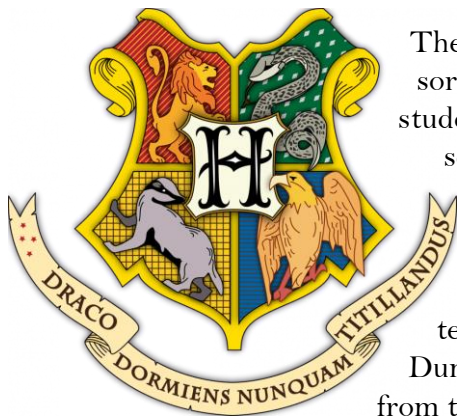
train, Harry makes friends with the youngest Weasley brother, **Ron**, who is in his year. What impression do we get of Ron and why do you think the two become friends? What do they have in common?

Harry also meets **Hermione Granger**, a know-it-all who doesn't seem to make a very good first impression on Ron and Harry. Why do you think this is?

CHAPTER SEVEN: THE SORTING HAT



Summary



The students are greeted by Professor McGonagall who tells them they will be sorted into four houses: Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw or Slytherin. The students are led into the Great Hall and sat one-by-one on a stool in front of the school where the Sorting Hat decides which House they will be placed in.

Harry, Ron and Hermione all end up in Gryffindor. Draco ends up in Slytherin.

During the start of year feast, Harry makes eye contact with an unsettling teacher called Professor Snape, and feels a sharp pain in his scar. After the feast Dumbledore makes a welcoming speech, and warns the students to stay away from the Forbidden Forest.

What happens in this chapter?

1. What are the qualities of each different house and what are their names?
2. Why do you think the hat takes a long time to decide for some students and not for others?
3. What impression does Dumbledore's speech give us about him?
4. Why do you think Harry gets a pain in his scar when he looks at 'the hook-nosed teacher'?



5. What do we think Harry's dream might mean?

THEMES

Friendship and Loyalty

*"You'll soon find out some wizarding families are much better than others, Potter. You don't want to go making friends with the wrong sort. I can help you there."
He held out his hand to shake Harry's, but Harry didn't take it.
I think I can tell who the wrong sort are for myself, thanks," he said coolly.*

- Friendship is repeatedly shown throughout the books as saving the day. Until he goes to Hogwarts, Harry doesn't have any friends. What does it mean for him when he makes friends with Ron in these chapters? Why do you think the two of them get on so well? Think about why friendship might be so important for Harry considering that he doesn't have any family. His friends become a kind of chosen family.
- Harry makes a lot of important choices in these chapters that will affect what kind of person he becomes. What do you think are some of the affects of Harry deciding not to take Draco's hand? What are the 'wrong sort' and the right sort?

Good and Evil

- The Sorting Hat tries to put Harry in Slytherin but Harry convinces him to place him in Gryffindor. This is a really important moment in the books and, like Harry's decision about who to become friends with, shapes his future in the books. What do you think would have happened if he had been placed in Slytherin? J. K. Rowling shows us that we do have control over what kind of person we become, and that everything is not simply determined by fate.
 - o Do you think Harry is inherently good or bad? Do you think people are born good or bad or do you think they are made that way by things that happen to them and the choices they make?
- *"Not Slytherin, eh?" said the small voice. "Are you sure? You could be great, you know, it's all here in your head, and Slytherin will help you on the way to greatness, no doubt about that — no? Well, if you're sure — better be GRYFFINDOR!"*

Power and Greed

- For Harry and his friends starting school at Hogwarts, magic comes with a certain degree of power: the ability to make a feather levitate, to turn a match into a needle, to fly on a broomstick. But Rowling also hints at what happens when adult wizards grow greedy for power and the dangerous ramifications of that desire. Thus, not only does Rowling associate greed and the desire for power with evil, but she also argues that even more innocent desires can be harmful, because they can lead to a destructive kind of greediness.
 - o Voldemort is described in early chapters as becoming evil because of his desire for power. Do we think he has always been evil, or do we think power corrupted him?

- Do we think the same could happen to Harry?

HOMEWORK

TASK 1 - CREATIVE

IMAGINE THAT YOU DIDN'T GET INTO THE HOUSE YOU WANTED. WRITE AN ARGUMENT FOR WHY YOU DESERVE TO BE PLACED IN YOUR PREFERRED HOUSE. THINK ABOUT THE QUALITIES OF EACH HOUSE AND THE KIND OF PERSON YOU WOULD NEED TO BE TO BE CHOSEN (LOOK BACK AT THE SONG THE HAT SINGS ABOUT EACH HOUSE)

TASK 2 – ANALYSIS

HOW IMPORTANT ARE FIRST IMPRESSIONS? PICK A CHARACTER THAT WE HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED TO SO FAR AND EXPLORE WHAT OUR FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF THEM TELL US ABOUT THEIR CHARACTERS. THINK ABOUT APPEARANCE, ACTIONS AND WORDS.