

Technical Terms and Phrases

Sherman Alexie has written “ <i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i> ”. He is the <u>author</u> [‘--] of the <u>novel</u> . There are bits of his own life in it, and that makes it autobiographical [----‘---] but it is not an autobiography [----‘--].	Roman
The first sentence of the novel <u>says</u> : ‘ <i>I was born with water on my brain.</i> ’ <i>Junior Arnold Spirit</i> is the <u>first-person narrator</u> [‘--] of the novel. 1. A first-person narrator tells the story from his own <u>point of view</u> , which is <u>limited</u> in knowledge. We, the readers, have <u>insight into</u> Junior’s feelings, his thoughts and his worries. We “see” the other characters and what happens through his eyes.	lautet 1. Icherzähler Erzählperspektive, eingeschränkt Einblick
“ <i>He was born with water on his brain</i> ”. – This is a <u>third-person narrator</u> speaking. 2. A <u>third-person narrator</u> could tell the story in one of two ways: a) ‘ <i>When I met him first, he was a skinny kid with a big head and glasses.</i> ’ Here the story is told by another character, e.g. <i>Gordy</i> . The reader would learn less about <i>Junior</i> because <i>Gordy</i> ’s knowledge is <u>limited</u> . b) ‘ <i>He was born with water in his head and therefore his mother felt guilty.</i> ’ – This narrator knows everything. He is <u>omniscient</u> [‘--], and his point of view is <u>unlimited</u> .	2. Er-Erzähler mit a) begrenztes Wissen b) allwissender Erzähler unbegrenztes Wissen
Readers learn most about <i>Junior</i> and his experience. This makes him the <u>central / main</u> character or <u>hero</u> of the novel. <i>Junior</i> ’s mother and father, for example, are <u>major characters</u> because they are important to <i>Junior</i> and <u>feature</u> a lot. <i>Mr P.</i> , for example, is a <u>minor</u> character because he appears only briefly.	Held Hauptfiguren vorkommen Nebenfigur
An author like Sherman Alexie can let the reader know in one of two ways: ○ By ‘ showing ’ what is going on, e.g. in ‘ <i>Dad [...] was crying</i> ’ (p. 14/l. 21 f). This is like an image, like something out of a film. You can imagine it visually. (indirect characterisation) ○ 2) By ‘ telling ’, e.g. in ‘ <i>I wanted to punch my Dad in the face.</i> ’ (p. 14/l. 17) Readers understand because this is a feeling they know, not an image they can see before their mind’s eye. (direct characterisation)	indirekte Charakterisierung direkte Charakterisierung
When readers talk about a text, they will always use <u>quotations</u> and <u>references</u> to show where the quotations can be found in the text.	Zitat, Beleg
It becomes quite clear how character Y feels, what the narrator feels – – because <u>it says</u> ‘ <i>Dad [...] was crying</i> ’ (p. 14/l. 21 f). (writing) – because <u>it says</u> here <u>on</u> page 14 <u>in</u> line 21 <u>and</u> I <u>quote</u> : ‘ <i>Dad [...] was crying</i> ’ <u>end of quotation</u> . (speaking)	... es heißt hier (im Text)... Zitat ... Zitatende
GATHERING EVIDENCE	Beweis, Beleg
At first, <i>Roger</i> and his gang seem rather nasty when they try to bully <i>Junior</i> (p. 62). But when <i>Junior</i> hits out at <i>Roger</i> (p. 63/l. 28), they react unexpectedly. In fact, <u>according to</u> <i>Junior</i> ’s grandmother, he has probably won their respect.	in unerwarteter Weise Laut.../nach Aussage von...
When <i>Roger</i> asks <i>Junior</i> about <i>Eugene</i> (p. 68 f) this <u>becomes quite clear</u> and this <u>makes</u> <i>Junior</i> feel more self-confident. This <u>character trait / quality shows</u> when he stands up to <i>Dodge</i> (p.78 / l. 4 ff).	wird deutlich macht ihn selbstbewusster Eigenschaft / zeigt sich
Later on, there is more <u>tension</u> between the narrator and <i>Rowdy</i> , and this means <u>an increase in pace / a plot development</u> when they meet at a match between their schools. In the middle of this passage <u>suspense</u> is building because... Towards the end, there is a decrease in pace / plot resolution because they become friends again	Spannung, Anspannung, steigende Handlung Spannung, Ungewissheit
DRAWING CONCLUSIONS	
This novel is about a young boy from the underclass / an ethnic minority / but he finally “ <u>makes it</u> ” / he <u>is</u> finally a success. So, it is a <u>happy ending</u> . Therefore, the novel gives hope to its readers. It celebrates the American Dream.	Unterschicht schafft es / hat Erfolg Es ist ein „Happy End“