**from “Flowers for Algernon”**

**Progress Report 1: March 5 (pg. 33) – April 18 (pg. 42)**

**1. Charlie is the type of person who has problems writing and reading. He spells his words phonetically (like they sound). He very much wants to be smarter.**

**2. Charlie is supposed to look at inkblot cards and explain what he sees in the ink. This test is called a Rorschach Test. Charlie’s reaction to the test reveals that he doesn’t think outside the box.**

**3. Charlie’s carrying a rabbit’s foot tells you that he is superstitious.**

**4. The first obstacle that Charlie must overcome is being accepted into the experimental program. He overcomes this by taking a multitude of tests such as Rorschach tests (inkblots) and Thematic Apperception tests.**

**5. The comparison between Charlie and Algernon with regard to “motor-vation” tells us that the doctors think of Charlie and Algernon in the same way. They are both “lab rats.”**

**6. *Foreshadowing*:**

**The author may have included a bad luck omen (the black cat) at this point in the story to reference that the operation may not work for Charlie.**

**7. Charlie wants to be smart so badly because he feels different not being as smart as other people. This can be proven when Charlie says “…all my life I wanted to smart not dumb.”**

**8. *Parallel episodes*:**

**Before Charlie’s surgery, he competes with Algernon by completing the “amazed” (a maze) with Algernon and losing every time. Instead of getting angry or frustrated with constantly losing, Charlie shrugs it off much like a young child would (pg. 36).**

**After his surgery, Charlie competes with Algernon in the same “amazed” (a maze) activity and still loses every time. However, after his surgery, he is angry and frustrated about losing. He says that the surgery was supposed to make him smarter but he fears that it did not work (pg. 38)**

**9. *Parallel episodes*:**

**Since the progress report 7, Charlie’s personality has changed again (page 41). Charlie has now beaten Algernon in the maze each time the test was given to him. He is maturing and this can be seen in Charlie’s reaction to Burt’s telling him that he could not feed Algernon. Burt tells Charlie that Algernon must perform new tasks to get his food such as unlocking a door. Charlie feels sorry for Algernon (page 41).**

**10. *Cause and Effect*:**

**Charlie is admitted into the experimental program because of his strong desire to learn (page 36). Because of his being accepted into the program, Charlie received the brain surgery. As a result of the surgery, he is able to learn at an accelerated rate. This is evident beginning with his ability to consistently spell words correctly.**