*Tangerine Discussion Questions:* Intro & Part 1

*Intro*

1. Why were Paul and his mother leaving Houston?
2. What evidence showed that Paul feared and distrusted his older brother, Erik?

*Friday, August 18*

1. How did the landscape change as Paul and his mother entered Tangerine County?
2. How did Paul react when his father started talking about the “Erik Fisher Football Dream”? Why did he react this way – how did he feel?

*Saturday, August 19*

1. Why did muck fires burn in the fields surrounding Lake Windsor Downs? How did these fires affect the environment of the development? Why was Mrs. Fisher upset by this news?

*Saturday, August 19, later*

1. Why was Paul impressed with Mike Costello?

*Monday, August 21*

1. Why was Mrs. Fisher disappointed when she first examined Lake Windsor Middle School? How did Paul feel about it?

*Wednesday, August 23*

1. Why was Paul confident that he would get onto the soccer team?

*Monday, August 28*

1. Why was the story of the eclipse important to Paul? Why did it puzzle him?
2. Why did Paul excuse Kerri Gardner from her duty of guiding him around the school?

*Wednesday, August 30*

1. What can we infer about why Erik chose Arthur to be his friend? How would Arthur profit from the relationship?

*Thursday, August 31*

1. Give 3 examples of how the Homeowners’ Association tried to control the appearance of the development. Why did Paul’s mother appreciate the Association’s efforts?
2. Why did Paul think the Donnelly’s house had been struck repeatedly by lightning? How did Joey respond to this theory?

*Friday, September 1*

1. What clues do we have to show Paul was certain he had landed the job of goalie for the middle school soccer team?

*Tuesday, September 6*

1. What happened to Mike Costello? Give examples to explain Paul’s reaction to Erik’s reaction.

*Thursday, September 7*

1. Why did Paul’s mother hold a meeting of football parents? How did various members of the community respond to her suggestion?

*Friday, September 8*

1. Why did Paul blame his mother about his being dropped from the soccer team? What was his mother’s reaction? His father’s reaction?

*Saturday, September 9 – Monday, September 11*

1. How do people see the kids from Tangerine Middle School? Give examples of at least two points of view.

*Monday, September 11, later*

1. Why was Paul surprised about the news report about what had happened at his school? How was the news report different than the actual events?

*Friday, September 15*

1. Why did Paul want to transfer to Tangerine Middle School?

Everyone answers:

1. From what point of view is the story being told? How do we know?
2. What is a theme among Paul’s memories?
3. Do you think Paul should be able to play soccer? Defend your opinion with solid evidence.