



# The Power of One

## Discussing *The Power of One*

Think of some of the various motifs and thematic ideas we've read about in relation to our reading of *The Power of One*: adapting, camouflage, identity formation, finding acceptance, beating the system, racism, oppression, the impact of power, and of course, the power of one.

As a small group, discuss what you think the most important themes of *The Power of One* so far. Together come up with three solid theme statements below:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Now your group needs to come to a consensus. Which of those above is the most important? Use your book, your notes, and your knowledge of the story to come up with five supporting pieces of evidence from the text to support your selected theme. The more specific you are, the better.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Last, your group will need to discuss why your theme is more important than any others that you or other groups have come up with. Why is your selected theme the one that readers should remember once they've finished the book?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Guidelines:

Your job is to participate substantively in today's discussion. How do you do that?

1. **INDIVIDUAL PREPARATION:** Be ready to discuss: did you prepare by finishing your group's assignment, reflecting on your reading, and completing the required blogging and discussion posts? Use ideas from your small group discussion during the large class discussion to further assist you.
2. **USE OF EVIDENCE:** Use direct quotations, paraphrases, and specific evidence from the text to support your comments.
3. **MOVE DISCUSSION FORWARD:** Discussion involves challenging fellow students, asking others to clarify their assertions, and asking questions of your fellow students - this enriches the discussion and illustrates your knowledge of the material as well. Do not simply restate what others before you have already said.
4. **RESPONSE AND REFLECTION NOTES:** Take notes during the discussion to use in responding to elements with which you agree and/or disagree.

Your participation today is worth 20 points.

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## Response and Reflection Notes:

**Discussion Topic-** So what? What's the point of *The Power of One*?

Take note on the points and ideas that others bring up. What questions do you have about the ideas discussed? Keep track of who makes points you agree and disagree with so that you can respond directly to that person.