

Charles by Shirley Jackson

If you are working on these questions at home, the story is attached at the end.

- Q1. Who is narrating the short story Charles?
- Q2. According to the narrator, how did Laurie change when he started kindergarten?
- Q3. When was Charles first mentioned in Laurie's home? Explain what he had done?
- Q4. Explain how Charles became a household joke at Laurie's home.
- Q5. Why were Laurie's parents looking forward to meeting his kindergarten teacher?
- Q6. Why did Laurie's parents take so long to find out the truth about Charles?
- Q7. Why did Laurie create the imaginary boy Charles?
- Q8. As the story comes to an end, most of us are very surprised to learn the identity of Charles. If you go back and read the story again you may notice that the author plants clues along the way to prepare you. What clue to the identity of Charles can you find in the opening paragraph of the story?

Using a standard dictionary, insert the definition of each word in the table below. Find the sentence in the story and enter in the table below.

Vocabulary Word	Sentence	Context Guess	dictionary.com or glossary definition
renounce	The day my son Laurie started kindergarten he renounced corduroy overalls with bibs and began wearing blue jeans with a belt	Give up	To reject or disown.
elaborately			
simultaneously			
incredulously			
resolute			
benediction			
privilege			

Identify the following elements for the short story:

Setting:

Plot:

Conflict:

Character(s):

Point of View:

Theme: