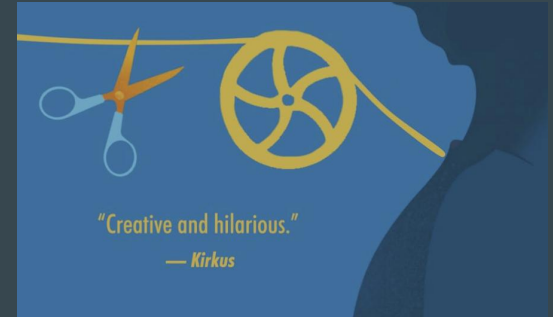


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Who is Doug?



Doug is a middle school student at Benjamin Banker College Prep. He is super interested in STEM subjects, like science and math. This character map will help you learn more about Doug as a person, and why he is such an important character in *Control Freaks*.



Character Map

Try to answer some of these questions on your own before they are elaborated on.
Each set of questions relate to the body part above!

Head :

- What does Doug think?
- What does Doug like to talk about or think is important to talk about?
- What leaves a “sour taste” in Doug’s mouth?
- What kinds of messages does Doug hear from others? Positive? Negative?

Arms/Elbow :

- What does Doug embrace?
- What is Doug pushing away?
- Where or how or what does Doug need to be “flexible” about?
- What does Doug have to juggle, both physically and emotionally?

Heart/Lungs :

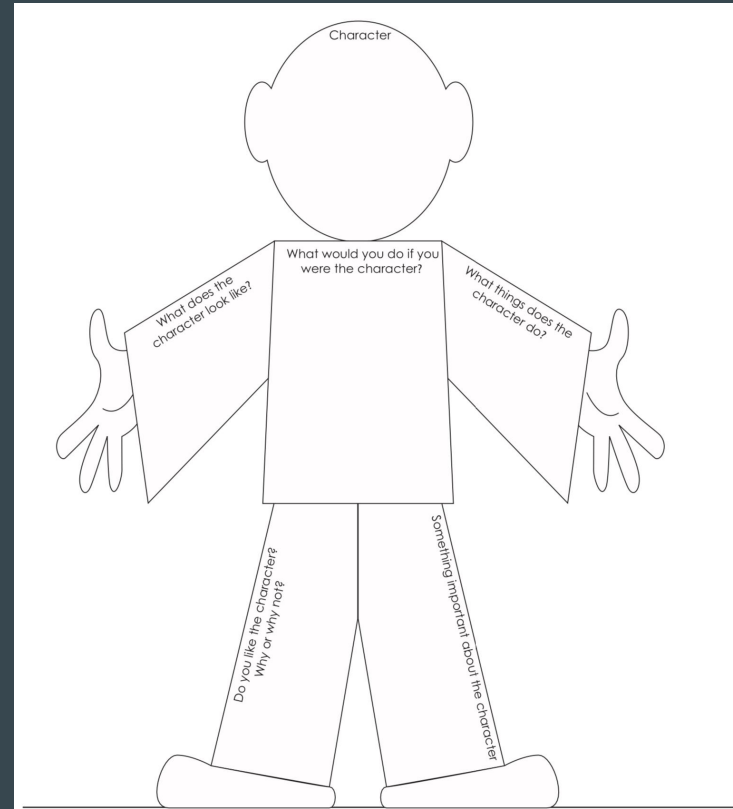
- What does Doug love? Why?
- What makes Doug “tick?” Why?
- What does Doug hate?
- What makes Doug breathe easily? With difficulty?

Stomach :

- What makes Doug sick to his stomach?
- What does Doug feed on? What nourishment does Doug need to keep feeling good?
- When does Doug feel punched in the gut?
- What gives Doug “washboard abs”? What makes Doug strong, both in body and spirit?

Feet :

- What does Doug run towards/from?
- What are Doug’s “sticky socks”? What are the things Doug is repulsed by?
- What is Doug’s Achilles heel (weaknesses)?
- How does Doug put himself into other people’s shoes?

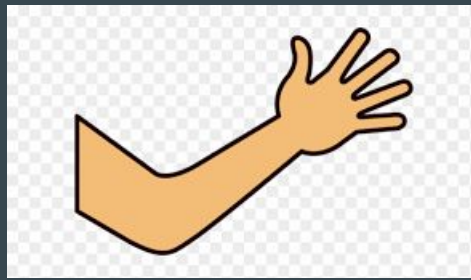


Head

- 1. What makes Doug think?
 - Doug’s mind is often occupied by wanting to attend GadgetCon, the middle school social structure, and his family dynamics.
- 2. What does Doug like to talk about or think is important to talk about?
 - Doug enjoys talking about inventing as well as regular conversations with his best friend Huey.
- 3. What leaves a “sour taste in Doug’s mouth?”
 - Something that leaves a sour taste in Dougs mouth is the pressure from his father to become an athlete rather than an inventor.
- 4. What kinds of messages does Doug hear from others? Positive? Negative?
 - Doug hears both positive and negative things in his life. He hears positive things from his mother, Julius, and Huey and more negative things from his step-brother and father.

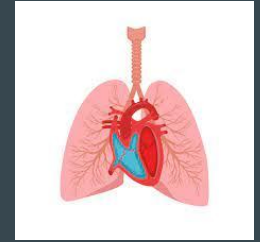
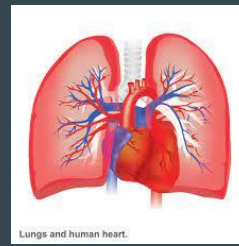


Arms/Elbows



- 1. What does Doug want to embrace?
 - As much as Doug cares for his Dad and worries about his views, deep down he prioritizes his own wants such as in the time of the book, winning the competition.
- 2. What is Doug pushing away?
 - He is pushing away the stereotype that his Dad tries to put onto him as well as the way he is portrayed in his school.
- 3. Where or how or what does Doug need to be “flexible” about?
 - Accepting arts and sports in the competition as he needs to be flexible about it so he can have the win he care so deeply about.
- 4. What does Doug have to juggle, both physically and emotionally?
 - He has to juggle being pulled in so many different directions during the competition from science, technology and engineering, thing he feels more comfortable with, to sports and arts.

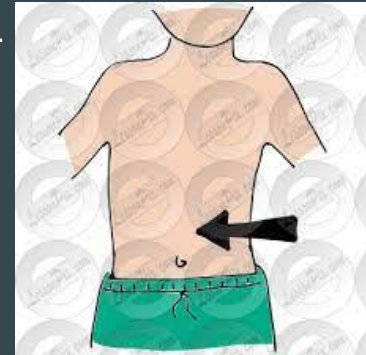
Heart/Lungs



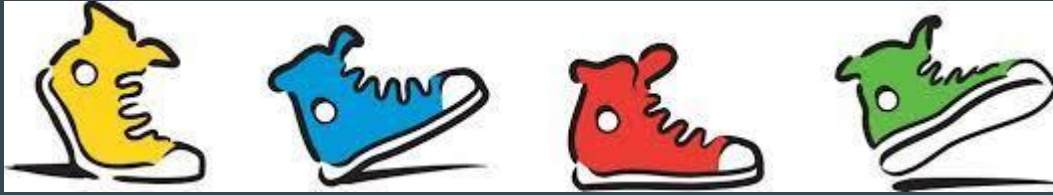
- 1. What does Doug love? Why?
 - Doug loves inventing because it gives him opportunities to challenge himself and to solve puzzles.
- 2. What makes Doug “tick?” What? Why?
 - The prospect of becoming the world’s greatest inventor is what makes Doug tick. This is because he has an avid passion for inventing and wants to use it to better the world.
- 3. What does Doug hate? Why?
 - Doug hates people that overlook what he needs. For example, his father overlooks his dream of becoming an inventor and replaces it with his own dream of Doug becoming a professional athlete. This is something that makes Doug very upset.
- 4. What makes Doug breathe easily? With difficulty?
 - Something that makes Doug breath easily is spending time with the good people in his life including his best friend Huey, and his mother and step-father Julius. Something that makes Doug breath with difficulty is to idea of not being able to attend GadgetCon, when his father doesn’t listen to him, and when his step-brother teases him.

Stomach

- 1. What makes Doug sick to his stomach?
 - Having to play football against his intimidating step brother who has lived with his dad and under the constant pressure.
- 2. What does Doug feed on? What nourishment does Doug need to keep feeling good?
 - He feeds off his successes like when he is continuously feeling confident in what he's doing, he takes leadership.
- 3. When does Doug feel punched in the gut?
 - Knowing that if he doesn't win the competition he has to spend the summer at camp where his Dad wants him to be.
- 4. What gives Doug "washboard abs"? What makes Doug strong, both in body and spirit?
 - He's the strongest when he feels confident and knows what he's doing.



Feet



- 1. What does Doug run towards/from?
 - Doug at first runs from other subjects like Arts and sports because he doesn't think they are his strong suits. He mostly runs toward science and technology, (he has an inventing mind) and he wants to convince his father to let him attend GadgetCon.
- 2. What are Doug's "stinky socks?" What are the things Doug is repulsed by?
 - A few examples of what Doug's "stinky socks" are, are sports which he does not believe he is very good at, and also the way his dad thinks of him. His dad is pushing him to focus on sports and not what he really wants, Gadget con. He is also not a fan of public speaking.
- 3. What is Doug's Achilles heel (weaknesses)?
 - Doug's Achilles heel is sports and being part of a team. Even in the beginning of the book, Doug and his best friend Huey stick to the seats where they don't have to be socializing with the other "cliques" in the school.
- 4. How does Doug put himself into other people's shoes?
 - Doug puts himself into other people's shoes because he tries his best in the competition despite his confidence not being very high at the beginning. He becomes a team player, and overcomes his personal struggles to be able to work with his team members.

