### Nonfiction Article of the Week

Informational Text

8-5: The Disturbing History of Human Experimentation

**Integrate Fiction & Nonfiction** 

### "Flowers for Algernon" & The Nuremberg Code

Read the 10 points of the Nuremberg Code carefully. Then, decide whether or not each point was met in the fictitious case of Charlie Gordon. Each item number below corresponds with the same number of the Nuremberg Code. Cite evidence from the story in each answer.

# The Nuremberg Code

#### **VOLUNTARY CONSENT**

 The voluntary, well-informed, understanding consent of the human subject in a full legal capacity is required.

#### SCIENTIFIC STUDIES

2. Experiment should aim at positive results for society and be necessary.

#### PRIOR KNOWLEDGE

3. Experiment should be justified based on previous knowledge.

#### **INJURY & SUFFERING**

- 4. Experiment should be set up in a way that voids unnecessary physical and mental suffering and injury.
- 5. Experiment should NOT be conducted when there is reason to believe in risk of death or serious injury.

#### **PROTECTION**

- 6. Risk of experiment should never exceed human benefit.
- 7. Preparations and facilities must adequately protect the subject against the experiment's risks.

#### QUALIFIED RESEARCHERS

Researchers must be fully trained and scientifically qualified.

#### FREEDOM TO WITHDRAW

9. Participants must be free to immediately quit at any time and for any reason.

### TERMINATION OF STUDY

10. Researchers must stop experiments at any point when continuation could result in harmful consequences to the participant.

1.	Point 1 states that the <b>voluntary, well-informed understanding consent</b> of the human subject in a full legal capacity is required. Do you believe that Dr. Nemur and Dr. Strauss obtained Charlie's consent as described here? Explain why or why not with evidence.
2.	Point 2 states that the experiment should be <b>necessary</b> and aim at <b>positive results for society</b> . Do you believe that the experimental procedure performed on Charlie meets this guideline? Explain.

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in Charlie's case? Explain why or why not.
Point 4 states that the experiment must be set up in a way that voids <b>unnecessary physical</b> and <b>mersuffering</b> and <b>injury</b> . Was this done in Charlie's case? Why or why not?
Point 5 states that the experiment should NOT be conducted when there is reason to believe in risk <b>death</b> or <b>serious injury</b> . Do you believe that the scientists had reason to believe that death or serious injury might occur in this case? Explain your answer.
Point 6 states that the <b>risk</b> should never exceed <b>human benefit</b> . Does this standard hold up in Char

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7.	Point 7 states that preparations and facilities must adequately protect the subject against the experiment's risks. Discuss whether or not this was done for Charlie.
8.	Point 8 states that researchers must be <b>fully trained</b> and <b>scientifically qualified</b> . Do you believe that Dr. Nemur meets these requirements? Why or why not?
9.	Point 9 states that participants should be <b>free to immediately quit</b> for any reason at any time. Was this point upheld in Charlie's experiment? Why or why not?
10.	Point 10 requires that researchers <b>stop experiments</b> at any point when continuation could result in <b>harmful consequences</b> to the participant. Do you feel like this was done in Charlie's case?