February 2, 2007

Part One: The Double Helix, James Watson

- p. 13A- scientist's narrow minded
- p. 15B- best place for a feminist is in another lab
- p. 17A- didn't learn chemistry
- p. 24B- duel benefit, Watson's sister meets Wilkins, Watson wants to see Wilkins's research
- p. 42A- religion an error of past generations
- p. 46D- origin of life wasted effort, scientific theory a waste
- p. 59C- finds out they're wrong because Watson didn't take good notes of Rosy's lecture
- p. ?- discovery of the helix

book- different fields competitive with each other; national rivalries as well

- p. 13A Not an expected view of scientists: Don't think and are stupid
 - -does Watson want to learn DNA?
 - -or does he just not want to learn chemistry
 - -nothing to prove (not as much pressure on him)
 - -lab rats, brilliant, slackers
 - -a specialty is worthless if it doesn't apply to life now
- p. 15B Sexist thoughts
 - -run away or try to work
 - -threatened by her intelligence?
 - -all think of themselves
 - -selfish; self-centered
 - -English don't start work of another
 - -scientists display their work
- p. 17A Avoid chemistry
 - -not liberal arts
 - -would work with who and what he wanted, not who and what he was suppose to
 - -only learn if he has to
 - -does what he has to get what he wants
 - -must rely on others
- p. 24B How he can benefit from using those around him
 - -victimized by Watson
 - -tells intimate things
 - -getting around
 - -interesting side of science
 - -being honest?
 - -honest- fearless; doesn't care?
 - p. 20 D personal life affects work life
 - -balance needed

American perspective of another culture

- p. 42A Religion as an error of the past
 - -Watson makes up his mind and is stubborn
 - -Crick- would you want to take advice from him?
- p. 46D Against everything Just A Theory was about
 - -does everything have to be directly lead to something great?
 - -can stumble on something important
- p. 59C First time that Watson had a chance to help; failed
 - -didn't remember water content
 - -down plays his mistake
 - -didn't want to be called out by Rosy
 - -vocabulary
 - -have to know to understand (lecture)
 - -couldn't understand Herman