

Please type your answers in a separate document (.doc) to be uploaded to turnitin.com when we begin class. You will need to keep this digital copy saved and backed up.

**I. THE LAST LECTURE**

1. What is the purpose of the “Last Lecture” college professors?
  
2. Even though she had always been his “cheerleader”, why did Professor Pausch’s wife not want him to deliver a Last Lecture?
  
3. Why did Jai finally give in and agree that Randy could give the Last Lecture at Carnegie Mellon?
  
4. The professor decided that he did not want the lecture to center on his pancreatic cancer, but to center on what two things instead?
  
5. What did Randy Pausch decide made him unique?
  
6. When you think of a speech, words come to mind. What is unusual about the “speech” that Randy Pausch prepared?
  
7. What is “The Elephant in the Room” that Randy Pausch introduces at the beginning of his speech?
  
8. How does Randy demonstrate to his audience that right now he is still in relatively good health?
  
9. Why did the Pausch family move from Pittsburgh to Virginia?
  
10. How did showing the CT scans and demonstrating his good health get Randy Pausch’s speech off to a good start?

**II. REALLY ACHIEVING YOUR CHILDHOOD DREAMS**

11. Pausch’s parents did not lavish him with gifts, trips, or niceties of any kind, yet he claims to have won the parent lottery. Why?
  
12. Randy Pausch’s father used to say, “Just because you are in the driver’s seat, doesn’t mean you have to run people over.”

Explain what he meant by that.

13. Randy's mother's appraisal of him as a child is that he was "alert". Randy felt that because she did not lavish him with praise, what did she do for him?

14. When he was in high school, what unusual thing did Randy's parents allow him to do to express himself?

15. Name three things that were meaningful to Randy related to number 14.

16. How did Pausch make it possible for himself to experience zero gravity with his Carnegie Mellon students when they won the plane ride at Johnson Space Center after winning the project?

17. What gift is it that Randy Pausch believed Coach Graham bestowed on his players?

18. Pausch learned that if you are doing something poorly and no one is bothering to tell you about it, that it means what?

19. What is a head fake---the IMPORTANT head fake?

20. Describe how Randy Pausch achieved his goal related to the World Book Encyclopedia. Be specific.

21. What did he find disappointing about this achievement?

22. Even though he was not the smartest on board the Starship Enterprise, what was it about Captain Kirk that Pausch admired?

23. Pausch learns about the willingness to take a chance in the face of the unknown when one of his deans permits him to take a sabbatical to work where doing what?

### **III. ADVENTURES...AND LESSONS LEARNED**

24. After the Whipple operation, how does Randy discover that his cancer is significantly worse and that he is going to die?

25. Randy is thankful for his Dutch Uncle Andy van Dam. According to Randy, what is it that a Dutch Uncle does to help one succeed?

26. Randy has asked what of his niece and nephew after he dies?

27. What does Randy consider to be the biggest brick wall he ever encountered, and who helped him overcome it?

28. What is the first serious problem that Jai and Randy tackle together to find that they work well as a team?

29. How does Randy's father teach him a lesson of humility after his death?

#### **IV. ENABLING THE DREAMS OF OTHERS**

30. Give three examples of how Randy Pausch manages his time.

31. Who does Randy give credit to for making him a "recovering jerk" so that he could help his students become "recovering jerks"?

32. What is the "head fake" about Alice, the animation creation software that Pausch helped create?

#### **V. IT'S ABOUT HOW TO LIVE YOUR LIFE**

33. How did Pausch almost miss man's first walk on the moon? What saved the day so that he was able to see it?

34. Why does Pausch prefer “earnest” over “hip”?
  
35. What battle did Pausch and his mother engage in for years before he finally raised the white flag?
  
36. Why does Randy admire Jackie Robinson? Be specific.
  
37. Give three examples of Randy’s tips to working successfully in a group.
  
38. What is the important advice that Pausch wants to give his daughter Chloe?
  
39. Explain the meaning of the First Penguin award.
  
40. What does Randy mean by the Friday Night Solution?
  
41. Explain why part three of a proper apology can be risky.
  
42. What does Randy Pausch reveal about his academic career for the first time during his Last Lecture?
  
43. Which Winnie the Pooh character has Pausch decided to be like and why?
  
44. What advice did news anchor Diane Sawyer give to Pausch that he was so grateful for?

## **VI. FINAL REMARKS**

45. In his research what does Randy Pausch discover is the most important thing that helped children who lost parents at an early age?
  
46. Tell three things that Randy Pausch is doing so that his

children will know how much he loved them.

47. What was the surprise that Randy arranged for Jai during his Last Lecture?

48. What was Jai's response as she hugged Randy in thanks?

49. Randy was worried that he would not be able to speak the last lines of his lecture, so what did do in case?

50. At the end he reveals the "second head fake" of his lecture. What is it?