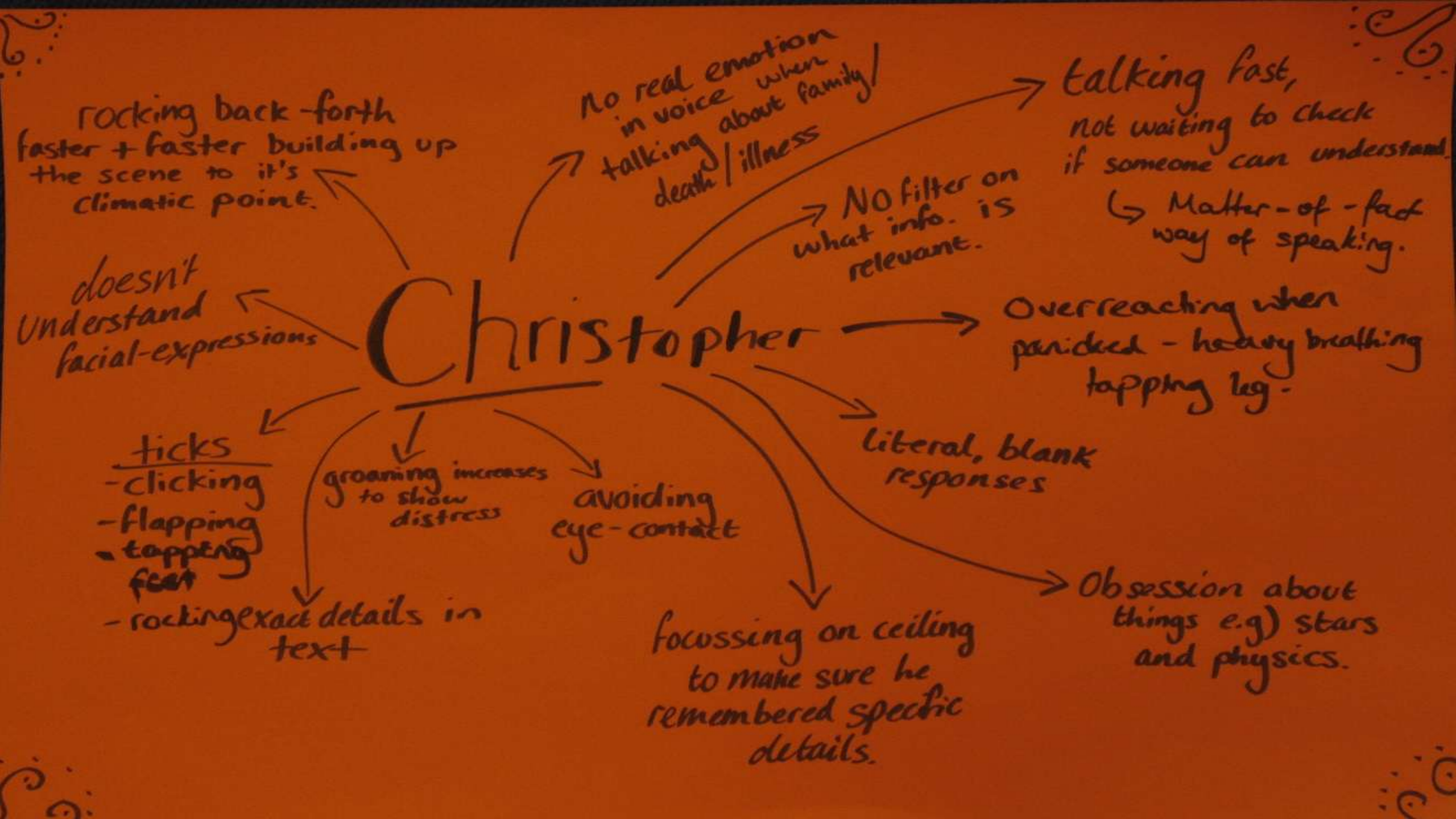


Character notes on Christopher, Ed and Siobhan (pages 4-16)

From Mr. Otley's class



Christopher



- Matter of fact tone of voice
- No eye contact with people that he talks to.
- Clicking repeatedly - autistic, nervous, uncomfortable
- Volume of growling used to increase tension
- Difficulty understanding, showing confusion
- Not seeing 'big pictures' only sees little details
- Can't filter information - what's important?
- Began shaking hands (ticks) when agitated, uncomfortable...
- Voice was fast in pace - trying to get all information out.
- Excited by knowledge (Obsessive interests) Stars and space
- Speaks quickly - he understands, other people not done

Christopher: Mannerisms = clicking constantly → creates rhythm distracts audience = creates stressful atmosphere. Moaning → attribute of aspergers. Avoiding eye contact. Blank tone of voice → no change in pitch. - straight to the point.

mannerism = waving hands by side hates being touched
/ flapping

When asked a question, he cannot answer directly and goes into too much irrelevant detail - can't pick out irrelevant important + info.

- speaks in a matter-of-fact tone.
- too literal 'what are you doing' 'talking to you'
- Speaks quickly.
- can't lie, not ashamed
- blunt, one word answers for direct questions
- talks at you, not to you
↳ one way conversation
- TMI
- didn't understand other's emotions / pick up
- doesn't know when to stop.
- obsessed w/ space & stars.
↳ obsessive interests, key aspect of Asperger's.
- nods head after speaking like acknowledging himself since he doesn't really connect with other people.

Siobhan:

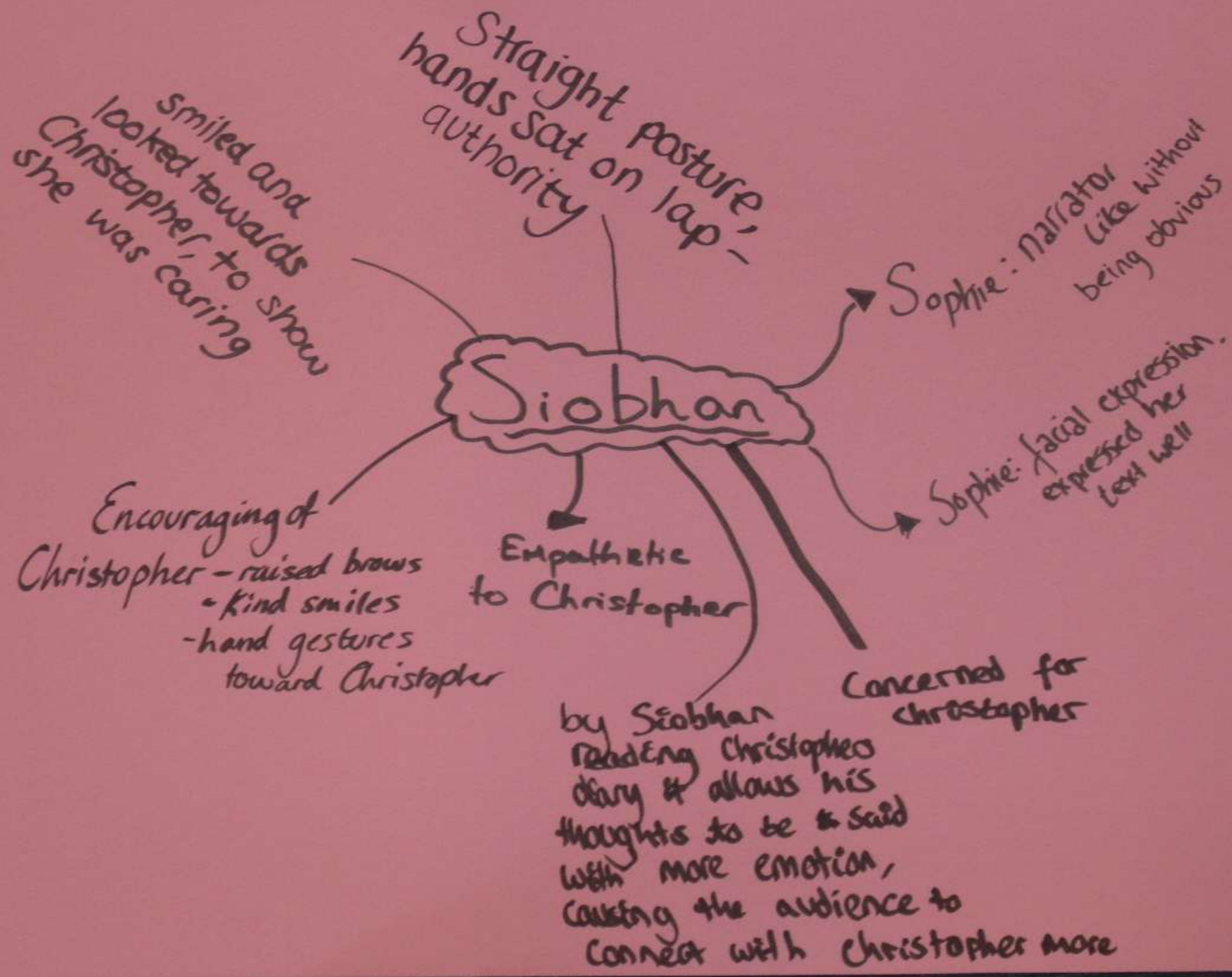
- * Showing Siobhan slowly understanding Christopher's writing + how she's confused about the way he thinks.
- * Squinted eyes - slow reading
- * Pulls head away + closer to
- furrows eyebrows in confusion / realisation
- waggles head
- finger following words
- she's used as a narration
- overly cheery
- only deals with Christopher through a professional stance.
- By Siobhan reading Christopher's diary it allows the audience to connect with him on a more empathetic level.

Siobhan



- Reacting to Christopher - not patronising, helpful
- reacting to what she's read - first time she's read it
- By Siobhan reading Christopher's log with emotion, the thoughts are more accessible to the audience





Ed



- Started to lose interest in Christopher's 'speech' - lost eye contact with him at times
- Becomes very agitated very quickly when Christopher asks too many questions
- Becomes frustrated that Christopher won't let him touch him & won't listen
- Hesitation when speaking shows awkwardness of his relationship with Christopher
- Tries to comfort Christopher by explaining things to him matter of factly.
- Trying to contain his irritation with Christopher
- Still shows he is irritated by sighing or clenching

ED

- Not paying much attention
- Sighing - fed up
- adamant that christopher should not investigate the dogs death.
- Agitated - tugging at collar

Short answers

Small nods of agreement

↳ Humouring Christopher

- increasingly agitated (short temper)

Comforts Christopher, leans/gestures toward him,

ED

- * Dazes in and out of listening to Christopher → doesn't really listening to Christopher, "terrific" → Sarcastic. Short sweet-answers
- * Juxtaposes → Christopher's long speech about space.
- * Shows closeness or normality through Ed's easy short reaction to Christopher rumbling.
- * Tries to reach out to son & look out for him, despite Christopher not reacting to this warmth. Tries to explain situations to him, unsure of how to at times - voice not confident, pauses to think of what to say.
- * Loses temper, "It's a bloody dog!" when Christopher doesn't listen to him.
- * Lets Christopher talk ~~and~~ about interests - knows that he just wants to talk and not have 2-way conversation.
- * Not very sensitive with Christopher in contrast with Siobhan's caring nature to him.
- * Gets irritated with Christopher, sighs, tired look/voice