**Describe an important idea in the text. Explain whether or not you think this idea is relevant to teenagers today**

Novels can explore a wide variety of ideas that are still relevant to people of today. This is also true to the novel “The Absolute true diary of a part-time indian”by Sherman Alexie. One of the key ideas that is developed through the narrative of Junior is that of the importance of maintaining your identity. Junior learns an important lesson that he is not just Junior of the Reservation or Junior the traitor, instead he belonged to many tribes. Junior is advised by his teacher that he should enrol at Reardan because he was talented and clever and that the Reservation had a way of crushing your spirit. Despite being labeled a traitor by many, Junior pereservers in maintaining his identity while adopting the western ideals to be successful. He learns to balance these two lives and learns that one can have duality of identity.

A key idea which Alexie presents is the importance of developing and maintaining your identity which is an idea that can relate to people of society of today. When Junior arrives at Reardan, he starts to think that he really doesn’t fit in with everyone purely because of the fact he’s indian. He also can’t go back to Wellpint either because he “**would have been pummeled. Mutilated. Crucified.”** He questions identity when he is considered a traitor to his tribe. He is convinced that **“You can't just betray your tribe and then change your mind ton minutes later. I was on a one-way bridge. There was no way to turn around, even if I wanted to.”** Junior’s thoughts reveal the aspect of confusion and questioning, it shows that he might regret the decision he made and constantly starts to think about whether it was worth **“betraying his tribe.”**  This idea relates to many people who go through a sudden change of environment and face a dilemma of their identity. Many young individuals question whether they belong in the many circumstances they fall in. Many young individuals rather stay in their own place of comfort instead of changing to a new place all of a sudden purely because of the fear of whether they would fit in a new environment or not. Hence the identity conflict that Junior experiences is similar to that faced by many young people.