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**Trivia Bank for
The Toothpaste Millionaire (2006)
by Jean Merrill**

Chapter 1 – My Friend Rufus pp. 1-6

1. How many zeroes are in the number one million?
 - **Six**
2. The narrator moved from Connecticut to...*where*?
 - **Cleveland, Ohio**
3. What is a conservatory used for?
 - **A room for plants**
4. What is Rufus' last name?
 - **Mayflower**
5. The narrator's brother, James, is only interested in...*what*?
 - **Model cars**
6. Who said, "I didn't even have to try to make friends. It was as if we always had been, from the first day I met him"?
 - **Kate**

Chapter 2 – Two Notes from Rufus pp. 7-12

7. Who is Mr. Conti?
 - **Math teacher**
8. What is the narrator's name?
 - **Kate MacKinstrey**

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9. Who was the only person able to solve the math problem about the cost of nylon?
 - **Rufus**
10. What were on the two maps that Rufus drew for Kate?
 - **How to get to Vince's Army & Navy store and how to get to Rufus' house from the store**

Chapter 3 – Toothpaste and Eye Shadow pp. 13-17

11. What price did Rufus think was outrageous for toothpaste?
 - **Seventy-nine cents**
12. Rufus says bicarb is like...*which drink*, just without the lemon-lime flavor?
 - **7-Up**

Chapter 4 – Peppermint, Clove, Vanilla, Curry, or Almond? pp. 18-21

13. Name at least two of the toothpaste flavors Rufus first made for Kate to try?
 - **Peppermint, clove, vanilla, curry, almond**

Chapter 5 – Another Nice Thing About Rufus pp. 22-24

14. How many tubes of toothpaste did Rufus make for 79 cents?
 - **Forty tubes**

Chapter 6 – Another Math Problem – pp. 25-27

15. At the time of the story, what is the population of the United States?
 - **Over two hundred million people**
16. How many zeros are there in a billion?
 - **Nine**

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Chapter 7 – The Joe Smiley Show – pp. 28-34

17. How much did it cost Rufus to make one container of toothpaste?
 - **2 cents**
18. What sort of containers did Rufus use to package his toothpaste?
 - **Baby food jars**
19. Why was using baby food jars a cost-effective means of packaging?
 - **The jars were donated and didn't cost anything for Rufus.**
20. What was the point of going on *The Joe Smiley Show*?
 - **Advertisement**
21. On *The Joe Smiley Show*, what did Rufus mainly talk about?
 - **His grandmother**
22. What does Rufus call his new product?
 - **Toothpaste**
23. Who said things like, "That's the most *fantastic* coat"?
 - **Joe Smiley**
24. Who said, "It just keeps your teeth clean"?
 - **Rufus**

Chapter 8 – In Which I Become a Stockholder – pp. 35-40

25. Kate and Rufus set up their business production in Kate's laundry room. Who has to move to the attic because of this?
 - **Kate's brother, James**
26. Who is the first stockholder?
 - **Kate**

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27. Kate gets two shares of stock. How much of the profits will she make?
- **Five thousand dollars**
28. What adult helps by checking the mathematics for the company's stock shares?
- **Mr. Conti**
29. Mr. Conti tells Rufus not to give away any more than *how many* shares of stock?
- **499**
30. How does Rufus offer to pay his friends for all of their help?
- **He makes them stockholders.**

Chapter 9 – With a Little Help from My Brother James – pp. 41-46

31. What did Kate give Rufus for his birthday?
- **Empty toothpaste tubes**
32. How did the baby food jars affect postage?
- **They were heavy and more expensive to mail.**
33. What does James read every morning at breakfast?
- **The auction ads from the newspaper**
34. What does “dentifrices” mean?
- **Toothpaste**
35. Rufus thinks what item (besides toothpaste) would be great packaged in a tube?
- **Peanut butter**
36. Who said, “Your brother James is a special problem”?
- **Rufus**

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Chapter 10 – A Gross Mistake – pp. 47-54

37. Whom did Kate see that she knew at the auction?
 - **Vince from Vince’s Army & Navy**
38. Who calls Kate a “little lady”?
 - **The auctioneer**
39. Kate thought she bought 600 empty tubes. How many did she actually buy? • **7,200**
40. How much did Kate spend on all of the tubes?
 - **Five dollars**

Chapter 11 – 7,200 Toothpaste Tubes – p. 55-57

41. How much is a gross?
 - **144 - twelve dozen**
42. Kate got a good deal on the price of the tubes. What was the problem with her order?
 - **It was five huge cartons, and she couldn’t carry them all home on her bicycle.**
43. What problem did Kate realize when she saw the tubes?
 - **How would they get the toothpaste inside the tube?**
44. Who said, “Okay, Kate. I know what to do.”
 - **Rufus**
45. How does Rufus help Kate get all of the tubes home?
 - **His friends borrowed bike carts from the grocery store.**

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Chapter 12 – The Toothpaste Machine – p. 58-63

46. Who said, “Oh sure, That’s a number five aluminum round-end with round-knurl cap”?
- **Hector**
47. Whom did Kate meet outside of the run-down Happy Lips Lotion factory?
- **Hector**
48. What is Hector’s job?
- **Mechanic**

Chapter 13 – Hector and the Happy Lips Plant – pp. 64-70

49. Who said, “That would be a crime, to destroy a beautiful machine like that. It would be a waste”?
- **Hector**
50. Who had been polishing the tube-filling machine every day?
- **Hector**
51. What is located at 29 Cuyahoga Avenue?
- **The empty factory**

Chapter 14 – The Trouble with Adults – pp. 71-78

52. Who is Mr. Perkell?
- **The vice president of the bank**
53. Why was the bank lady surprised that Rufus had an appointment with Mr. Perkell?
- **Because he’s just a kid**
54. Why wouldn’t the bank lend Rufus the money?
- **Because he’s just a kid**

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Chapter 15 – An Exception to the Rule About Adults – pp. 79-83

55. Who said “Stupid! Stupid! Stupid”?
- **Hector**
56. How does Rufus finally get the bank loan?
- **Hector gets the loan for Rufus.**
57. How much money did Rufus need in the bank loan?
- **Fifteen thousand dollars**
58. What was the bank loan money used for?
- **To rent the building, pay Hector’s salary, and buy more toothpaste tubes**

Chapter 16 – Toothpaste 1 – pp. 84-88

59. What do the kids call their math class now?
- **Toothpaste I**
60. Who got to make the final exam for math class?
- **Rufus and Kate**
61. How much got added to the price of toothpaste to cover the cost of rent and paying Hector?
- a. **One cent per tube**
62. Why is advertising so important?
- **People won’t buy Toothpaste unless they *know* about Toothpaste.**

Chapter 17 – The Absolutely Honest Commercial – pp. 89-96

63. Who is Leo Lu?
- **A kid Rufus knows that had a movie camera.**
64. What was Leo Lu’s movie about?
- **Cockroaches**

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65. Why did Kate get to be in one of the commercials?
- **Rufus didn't want to discriminate by only having a boy in the commercials.**
66. Which was the best commercial?
- **The one of Hector**
67. How did Rufus get a national audience for his advertising?
- **Morton McCallister did a news story about Rufus' commercials.**

Chapter 18 – The Toothpaste War – pp. 97-100

68. What started the price war?
- **An article in the newspaper**
69. What is *Consumer's Friend*?
- **A magazine that tests products to see which is the best**
70. Who is in a price war?
- **The name brand toothpaste companies**
71. Why didn't the price war affect Rufus' business?
- **Because his prices were already lower than any other toothpaste**
72. Who was on the cover of *Business Month* as "Businessman of the Year"?
- **Rufus**
73. What were the other three top toothpaste companies?
- **Sparkle, Dazzle, and Brite**

Chapter 19 – A Movie Script by Mac Kinstrey – pp. 101-108

74. What did Kate decide would be her life career?
- **Writing movie scripts**

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75. How is chapter 19 different than the other chapters?

- **It is written as a play/script.**

76. What happens to the toothpaste factory?

- **It gets blown up.**

77. What is the other businessmen's goal?

- **To keep profits high**

Chapter 20 – The Blowup – pp. 109-114

78. Who is Joey the Bomb?

- **A man hired to blow up Rufus' toothpaste factory**

79. Why did Kate and Rufus visit Joey in jail?

- **Because he saved them and got them out of the plant before he blew it up.**

80. Who will never forgive Joey for blowing up the plant?

- **Hector**

81. How much actual profits do Rufus' business make in the first year?

- **Over two million dollars**

Chapter 21 – The Board of Directors – pp. 115-116

82. Whose idea was it for Rufus to have a Board of Directors?

- **Mr. Perkell (from the bank)**

83. Name three people on Rufus' Board of Directors.

- **Rufus, Mr. Perkell, Mr. Conti, Morton McCallister, Hector, Kate**

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Chapter 22 – Rufus Retires – pp. 117-119

84. What did Rufus like better than making money?
• **Figuring out how to make the toothpaste and figuring out how to make the money**
85. Who will now run the toothpaste factory?
• **Hector**
86. Where did Rufus go after retirement?
• **To North Carolina to see Grandma Mayflower.**
87. Who lives in North Carolina?
• **Grandma Mayflower**
88. How did Rufus get to North Carolina?
• **Bicycle**
89. What items did Rufus ask Kate to look for at Vince’s Army & Navy store?
• **Blow-up rafts and dried soup**
90. Who is the author of *The Toothpaste Millionaire*?
• **Jean Merrill**