

Name _____

Date _____

A Door to a New World

When you open up a new novel and begin reading, it is as if you are opening a door to a new world. An author must introduce you to that world and make you want to stay in it for a long time.

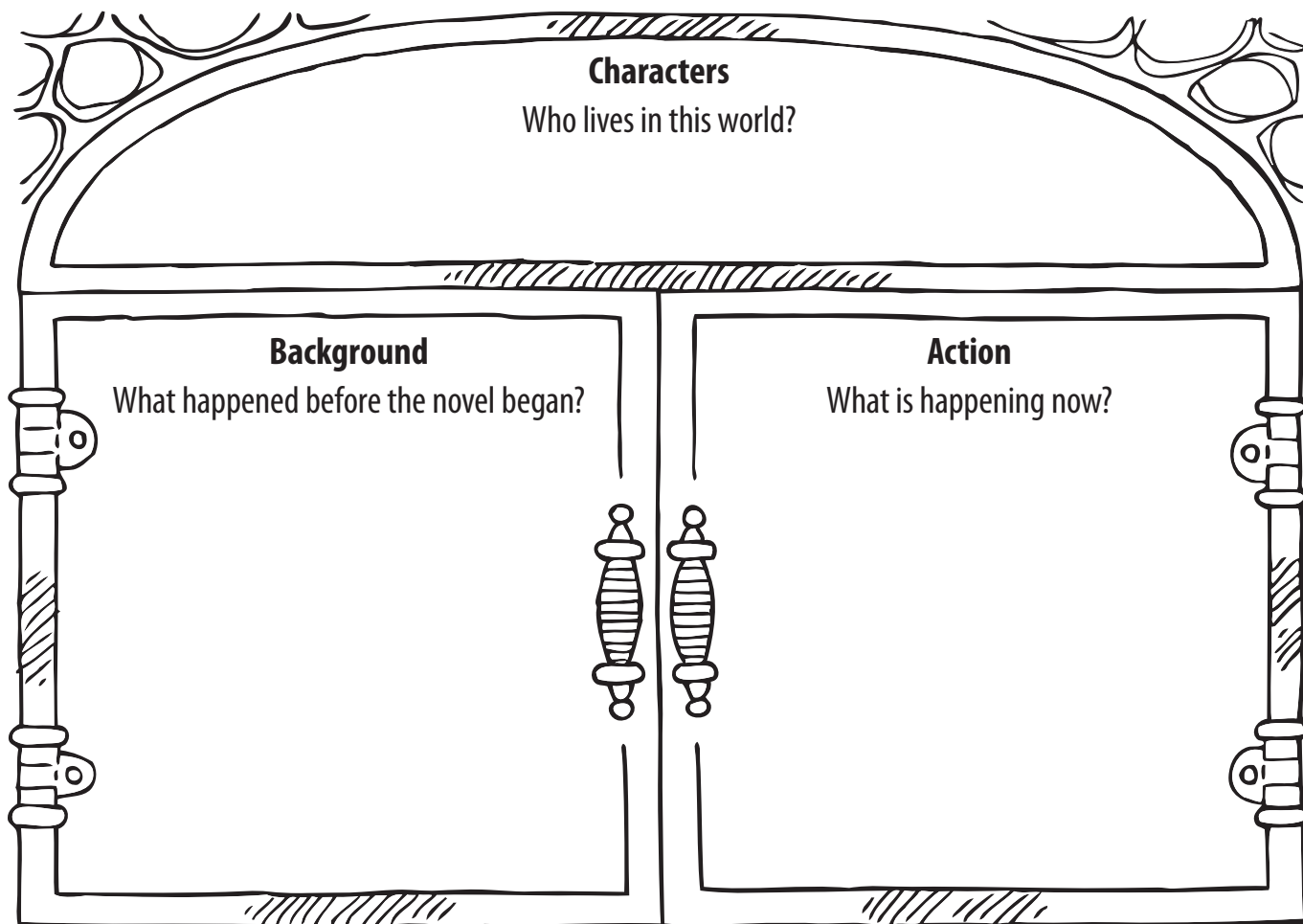
Title of the Novel: _____

First, answer this question about the novel's beginning:

At what point in the story does the novel begin? Check the most correct answer.

- ☐ in a time when nothing much is happening
- ☐ in the middle of an exciting action
- ☐ just after something exciting has happened

Then, use the diagram below to answer questions about the beginning of the novel.



Name _____

Date _____

Top 5 Turning Points

A character may face many turning points throughout a novel. These turning points help the character grow or change in some way. They change from who they are or what they think at the beginning of the novel to who they are or what they think at the end.

Choose the five most important turning points for a character in the novel. Tell how each turning point changed that character or helped them to grow. Leave the third column blank for now.

Title of the Novel: _____

Name of Character: _____

Moment or Event	Its Effect on the Character	Rank
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

In your opinion, which moment from your list had the greatest effect on the character? Rank the moments in order from #1–5. Put a “1” beside the moment or event that had the greatest effect. On the lines below, explain your top choice. Why is it #1?

Name(s) _____

Date _____

What Time Is It?

In a novel, the term *setting* can refer to *when* the action takes place. How does the author show us the time period in which the novel takes place?

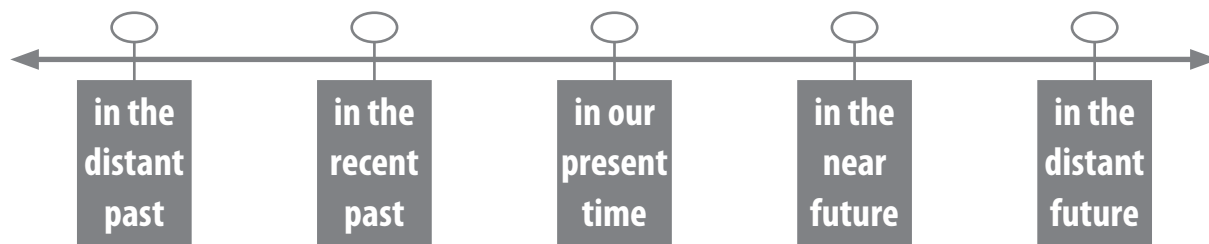
Title of the Novel: _____

Page numbers in section: from page _____ to page _____

How does the author show us the time period in which the novel takes place? After reading each section, think about how the author does this. Work with a partner to complete the chart below.

Technology computers other devices	
Art and Entertainment music, TV, books, films, and other art	
Style hair clothes	
Communication language ways of speaking	

Based on your notes, in which time period does most of this section of the novel take place? Fill in the bubble above the best answer.



Name _____

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To Begin With

A great first few pages can make a reader want to keep reading a novel. How did the author choose to begin this novel?

Title of the Novel: _____

1. Are the first few pages filled with exciting action or characters talking? Do those first few pages describe a setting or a character? Explain how the author uses each of the following to begin the book:

Description	Action	Dialogue
What is described on these pages?	What happens on these pages?	What do characters say on these pages?

2. How do these first few pages make you feel about the place or the characters you are being introduced to?

3. What do you think is the main thing the author is trying to accomplish in these first few pages of the novel?

Name _____

Date _____

The Big Idea

Use this activity to examine the main idea(s) of the section you have just read.

Title of the Novel: _____

Page numbers in section: *from page* _____ *to page* _____

Name the two most major events that happen in this part of the novel.

1

2

What is the connection?

Find a connection between these two events. How are they related?

What's the big idea?

Add up what you have learned about this section to find the main idea of this part of the novel.

Main Idea: _____

Name _____

Date _____

Healthy and Unhealthy

Characters live in the world of the novel together. They have relationships with one another. They are friends, family members, classmates, enemies, etc.

Title of the Novel: _____

Give an example of a positive, healthy relationship between two or more characters in the novel.

H

The names of the two characters:

E

and

A

Why you feel their relationship is positive and healthy: _____

L

T

H

An example that shows this: _____

Y

U

Give an example of a negative, unhealthy relationship between two or more characters in the novel.

N

The names of the two characters:

H

and

E

Why you feel their relationship is negative and unhealthy: _____

A

L

T

An example that shows this: _____

H

Y

Name _____

Date _____

Verbal Story Map

Imagine that a friend would like a quick idea about what they will find if they read this novel. Use words to give a quick snapshot of what's in store for the reader of this book.

Some **characters** you
will meet are

Some **places** you
will see are

This book is called

Some **events** that happen are

A **lesson** you might learn is

When you **finish** this book, you will **feel** _____ because



Name _____

Date _____

In the End

Authors know that a novel should end in a way that ties up the plot of the rest of the novel. They also know that a satisfying closing scene is important because it will leave the reader with a positive feeling toward the book.

N One novel is titled _____.

O Tell how the ending finishes off the story of the rest of the novel. _____

V _____

E Tell how you think the ending makes readers feel. _____

L _____

#1 _____

N The other novel is titled _____.

O Tell how the ending finishes off the story of the rest of the novel. _____

V _____

E Tell how you think the ending makes readers feel. _____

L _____

#2 _____

Comparing the Novels

Which novel do you feel has a better ending? _____

Explain why you feel this way. _____
