

Name(s) _____

Date _____

Character Connections

Work with a partner to illustrate the connection between two of the novel's characters.

Title of the Novel: _____

Choose two characters from the novel. Discuss the following ideas with your partner. Take notes as you discuss the characters.

Character Names: _____ and _____

Compare

How are they **alike**?

Contrast

How are they **different**?

Connect

How do they **interact**?

Conflict

In their relationship, what causes **trouble**?

Next: Work on your own. Use your notes to write a short summary of how these two characters are similar and alike, how they are connected, and what causes conflict between them.

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How It All Begins

How to begin a novel is an important choice that an author must make. Those first few pages introduce the reader to a new world, and it is the author's hope that the reader will be excited to stay awhile in that world.

Title of the Novel: _____

The 1st Line

1. How does the novel begin? Quote the novel's first line.

2. In your opinion, what seems to be the main purpose of this line?

The 1st Few Pages

3. Describe what happens in the first few pages of the novel.

4. What seems to be the main purpose of these first few pages?

5. 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
☐ in a time long before the present time of the novel

The Overall Effect

6. Why do you think the author chose to start the novel with this scene?

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Time Period

The time period in which a novel is set can add to our understanding of the characters and events. Discuss each of the following questions with a partner before answering on your own.

Title of the Novel: _____

1. What is the time period of the novel? Fill in the bubble above the best answer.

in the distant past in the recent past in our present time in the near future in the distant future

2. Give a few examples of clues (technology, culture, styles) that help you determine the time period of the novel.

3. Think about how the novel would be different if it were set in a different time.

- **If the novel is set in the past:** How would the novel need to change if it were set in today's world? Give three specific examples.
- **If the novel is set in the future or the current time:** How would the novel need to change if it were set 100 years ago? Give three specific examples.

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Judging by the Tone

In literature, the term **tone** refers to the author's attitude toward a character or event in the novel. Think about some notable (interesting, unusual, or dramatic) things characters do in this section of the novel. Focus on two such actions. How do you feel about the characters and their actions? How does the author seem to feel? Complete the chart.

Title of the Novel: _____

Page numbers in section: from page _____ to page _____

	Question: What is the author showing us about this character?	Question: How does this action make <i>you</i> feel about this character?
Character's Name <hr/> <div>Notable Action</div> 		
Character's Name <hr/> <div>Notable Action</div> 		

What Do You Think? Do you think the author is judging these characters for their actions? On a separate piece of paper, do one of the following:

- If your answer is **YES**, explain how the author judges them and give examples to support your claim.
- If your answer is **NO**, explain why you believe the author is not judging them. If you believe the author is judging another character in another part of the book, then use that information to show how the author's tone is different for that character.

Date _____

Title of the Novel: _____

Theme #1: _____

- Choose Theme #1 or Theme #2.
Was your chosen theme a major part of the previous sections of the novel you have read? Explain.
- Choose Theme #1 or Theme #2.
Do you think your chosen theme will be a major part of the rest of the novel? Explain.

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Success and Failure

In literature, characters can experience failure and success. How they react to these highs and lows can make us think about how we might handle these situations in our own lives.

Title of the Novel: _____

First, look at how characters deal with failures. Find an example of a character who handles that failure in a positive way and one who does not.

	In a Positive Way	Not in a Positive Way
Name of character		
What happened?		
What is their response?		
Why is this positive (or not)?		

Next, look at how characters deal with successes. Find an example of a character who handled that success in a positive way and one who did not.

	In a Positive Way	Not in a Positive Way
Name of character		
What happened?		
What is their response?		
Why is this positive (or not)?		

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Novel vs. Film

Books and movies just naturally seem to go together. Most authors try to create vivid imagery that helps their readers picture the characters, settings, and events in their novels. It's only natural that many who read the story on the page want to see it on a screen.

Great novels are often made into films. And since film is such a different type of art than literature, there will always be differences between a film and the novel it is based on.

Watch the film based on the novel you are studying. As you watch this film, take notes on its content. You will be using your notes to write an essay on the film and how it compares to the novel.

Title of the Film: _____

Pay close attention to the following aspects of the film:

- the opening credits
- the setting
- the narrator
- the actors
- the parts that are not in the book
- the events and characters that are different from what you imagined
- the events and characters that are just as you imagined them

Notes

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After the film is over, compare and contrast the novel and the film. Your writing may be in any of the following formats:

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| ➤ essay | ➤ blog post | ➤ infographic |
| ➤ film review | ➤ letter | ➤ diagram |

Somewhere within your chosen format or after it, tell which version (the novel or film) was better, and why. If you had to recommend just one to a friend, which would you choose? Which is easier to follow or understand? Which has the greater emotional impact for the reader/viewer? Which one makes you think more about the themes and issues presented in the novel?

Name _____

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Two Points of View

Compare and contrast the points of view of the two stories you have read.

	Novel #1	Novel #2
Title		
Type of Narrator (check one)	<input type="radio"/> first-person Name of Narrator: _____ <input type="radio"/> third-person limited <input type="radio"/> third-person omniscient	<input type="radio"/> first-person Name of Narrator: _____ <input type="radio"/> third-person limited <input type="radio"/> third-person omniscient
Quotation that Shows Type of Narration		

Choose one of the following tasks. Write your answers in paragraph form on a separate piece of paper.

Option #1

If the novels have the same type of narration . . .

Paragraph #1: How does this make the stories similar in how events are told to the reader?

Paragraph #2: Even though they are the same type of narrator, how are these narrators different? Give examples.

Option #2

If the novels have a different type of narration . . .

Paragraph #1: Why do you think these authors chose to use different types of narration? How did each type serve each story?

Paragraph #2: How do the different types of narration give you different insight into the lives of the main characters of these stories? Explain.