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Name _____

Read the biography and answer the questions on the following pages.

Enid Blyton was born in London, England, in 1897. By the time she died, she had written over 600 books and had them translated into almost 70 languages. Since her first book, *Child Whispers*, appeared in 1922, generations of children all over the world have enjoyed her stories.

Enid Blyton trained as a kindergarten teacher and soon opened her own elementary school. She eventually gave up teaching to devote more time to writing children's literature. Her many stories, plays, and songs appeared in *Teachers' World* magazine. They became so popular that teachers used them in their lessons.

In 1938, *The Secret Island* was published. It was the first of many full-length adventure stories. The most popular of these series have been *The Famous Five*, *The Secret Seven*, *The Five Find-Outers*, and *Barney* mystery books. The school series, *Malory Towers* and *St. Clare's*, have also been extremely popular.

In 1995, *The Famous Five* series of books was produced for television. This encouraged even more children to pick up her books and start reading.

As well as books for older readers, Enid Blyton wrote many delightful stories for younger children. These include *The Faraway Tree*, *The Wishing Chair*, *Amelia Jane*, and *Noddy*.

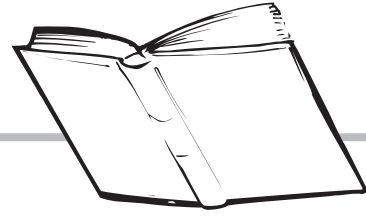
Enid Blyton died in 1968. She had dedicated her working life to writing books that children would enjoy reading.

For over 90 years, the stories written by Enid Blyton have encouraged children to become enthusiastic readers. They become familiar with the characters in a series and are keen to follow them in the next book. Where will their next adventure take them? How will they solve the latest mystery? What mischief will they get into during the next school year?

To find out, pick up an Enid Blyton book!



ENID BLYTON



Literal

Find the answers directly in the text.

1. Write the events that occurred in these years:

1897 _____

1922 _____

1938 _____

1968 _____

1995 _____

2. In the boxes below, name three series of books which may be enjoyed by each age group.

Young Readers

- _____
- _____
- _____

Older Readers

- _____
- _____
- _____

Inferential

Think about what the text says.

1. How did Enid Blyton know what sort of work would be useful for teachers when she wrote for *Teachers' World* magazine?

2. Why do you think Enid Blyton chose to write books for children?

ENID BLYTON

Applied

Use what you know about the text and your own experience.

1. Place an **X** in the box next to the opinion(s)/statement(s) with which you agree with regarding a book series.

- boring—They always have the same characters.
- great—You really get to know the characters.
- dull—The same things happen, and you know how each will end.
- exciting—You wonder how each character will react to different situations.
- interesting—You have your favorites and can identify with them.

2. *The Famous Five* series was made into a television series. Name a book that you are familiar with that has been made into a movie or television show.

Title: _____

a. Which did you like better, the book or the show? Why?

b. What are the similarities and the differences between the two?



Name _____

ENID BLYTON

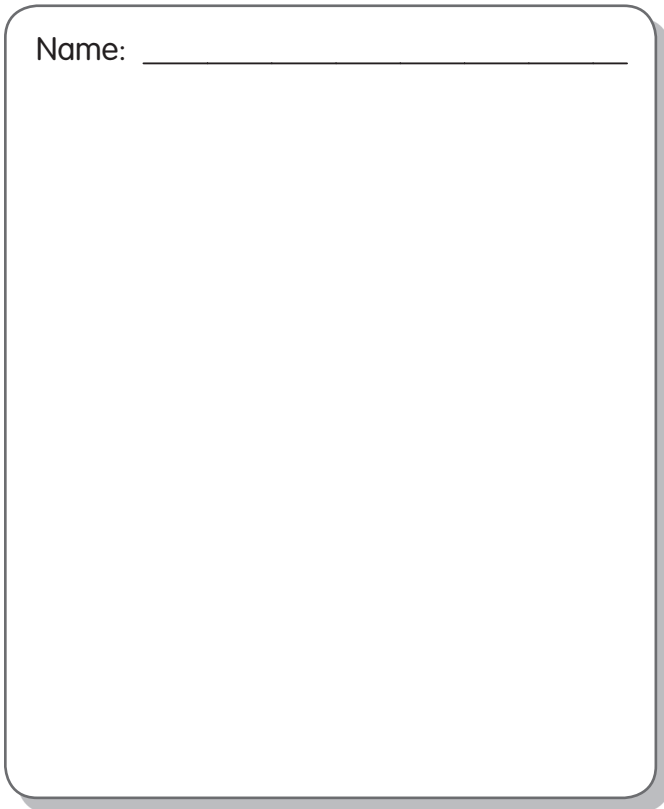
Making Connections

Most of Enid Blyton's books belong to a series (e.g., *The Famous Five*). Choose a series of books that you are familiar with, and describe two of the main characters.

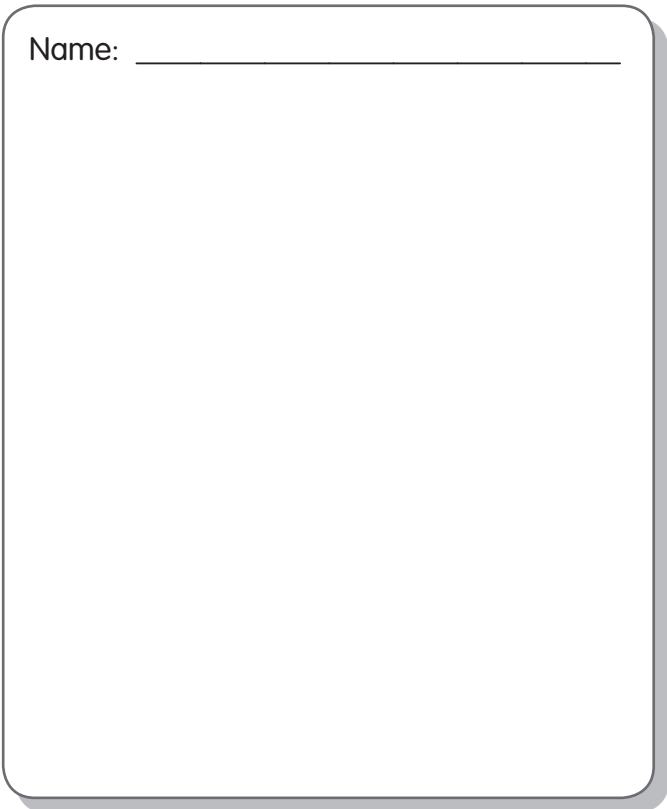
Series title: _____

Draw a picture of how you imagine each character looks.

Name: _____



Name: _____



For each character, write words and phrases to describe your opinion of his/her personality.

What do you like or dislike most about each character?
