



6th Grade English

Mrs. Hall

Summer Reading Novel Guide: *Old Yeller* by Fred Gipson

Read the entire book over summer break, and complete the following handouts. This is due on the first full day of school, August 14.

Name _____ Date _____

SETTING:

The setting of a story is when and where it takes place.

Approximately **when** does the story take place? How do you know? _____

Where does the story take place? Give a brief description. _____

POINT OF VIEW:

The point of view in a story is the vantage point from which the story is told. In other words, who is telling the story? Is it one of characters or an unknown narrator?

In this novel, who is telling the story?

CHARACTERS:

Protagonists: The protagonists are the main character(s) in a story who are directly experiencing the conflict (or problem).

Name the main protagonist -- tell what he/she looks like, acts like, and is feeling in the book. Give specific examples from the story to support what you say. For example, if you say he/she is brave, give a specific situation in the story where he/she acts brave.

List the other primary characters in the book:

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 3. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 4. _____ |

CONFLICT:

Conflict in a story is the central problem that the main character faces and is trying to solve or overcome.

Describe the story's conflict. Give an example from the story for each type of conflict listed.

Man vs. Man _____

Man vs. Nature/Animal _____

Man vs. Self _____

Animal vs. Animal _____

Which type do you think is the main conflict in the story? Why do you think this?

PLOT:

Plot is the series of events in a story. Write an event from each chapter in the book that you think is important to the action in the story.

- Chapter 1: _____
Chapter 2: _____
Chapter 3: _____
Chapter 4: _____
Chapter 5: _____
Chapter 6: _____

Chapter 7: _____
Chapter 8: _____
Chapter 9: _____
Chapter 10: _____
Chapter 11: _____
Chapter 12: _____
Chapter 13: _____
Chapter 14: _____
Chapter 15: _____
Chapter 16: _____

CLIMAX:

Climax is the most intense part of the story. It is where the conflict reaches its peak and the main action comes to a “head.” After the climax, the conflict is resolved. For example, in a murder-mystery story, this might be the point where the murderer is caught and the mystery solved.

What scene do you think is the climax of the story? Why?

RESOLUTION:

The resolution tells how the conflict in the story is solved or how the main protagonist at the end of the story is left in regards to the problem.

What is the resolution to the story’s conflict? What is going on with the main character (protagonist) at the end of the story?

THEME:

The theme of a story is the central message the author is trying to communicate to the reader. There can be more than one theme in a story, but usually there is a primary truth that the writer of the story is trying to communicate.

What possible themes (messages) do you think the writer of this story is trying to communicate to the readers? Please feel free to share your thoughts and your reaction to the story too.
