

100 MOST DANGEROUS GAME  
100 NOTEBOOK CHECK

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# Notebook Check 1: Adversity and Symbols

Define ADVERSITY:

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**Directions: Read about the symbolism below. Show evidence of close reading. Choose one symbol for yourself and write one word on the color sheet attached to the back of the notebook check that answers the following question: *What ADVERSITY have you/must you overcome?* Color your symbol so that it can be displayed in the room.**

## Koi Fish (Carp)

Symbol of good fortune, masculinity, courage, determination, independence, individualism, longevity, yin yang, love, transformation. Koi (Japanese word for carp) go hand in hand with the Japanese culture and history. Generally, Koi fish symbolism came from the Chinese legend of the Dragon Gate where the Koi has triumphantly swam up a waterfall and transformed to a dragon afterward. This is why Koi has become a favorite icon as it stands for a lot of things.

**Symbol of good fortune, prosperity, riches, or luck:** This comes from the Chinese's belief that seven - gold Koi will bring good luck to the household and the Dragon Gate legend itself. For the Chinese, Koi symbolizes success, exactly what it had when it reached the top of the top of the waterfall and became a dragon.

**Symbol of masculinity, Courage, masculine strength, or strength in character:** This is because the Japanese believe that a true man is courageous. He shows no fear and is able to face challenges, no matter how hard they are, just like the Koi's reaction when a fisherman already holds it captive. This symbolism even got so popular that it is already used as an icon for the annual Boys' Day Festival in Japan.

**Symbol of determination, perseverance, and ambition:** This is because the Koi has persevered and worked hard to overcome a great obstacle (the waterfall) in order to achieve its goal, which is to be a magnificent dragon.

**Symbol of independence and individualism:** The fact that the Koi swam against the current and even up the waterfall could be seen as non-conformism and willingness to go against the established norm. The triumph of the fish to go up the waterfall can also be seen as a symbol and encouragement to surpass expectations and to reach the impossible, while the actual act of going against the current could be seen as a form of bravery.

**Symbol of longevity:** It's no surprise that these colorful fish symbolize longevity, since some say that some koi have lived for nearly 200 years. By keeping your koi healthy, you can expect them to live anywhere between 30 and 75 years.

**Yin Yang symbol:** In feng shui, the koi is tied to the yin yang symbol. In fact, the black and white tear drops of the yin yang symbol are said to be representations of two koi, one male and one female. The eye of each teardrop is symbolic of the constant watchful eye of the koi. The two yin and yang koi complete each other and create a perfect balance of the negative and positive energies of chi energy.

## The Phoenix

The bird of fire is a symbol of hope and ability to survive. In Greek mythology he was called Phoenix which means a dark purple color - red brown. The Greek tale about the wonderful Phoenix says there is a unique bird, big and colorful, place somewhere in the blazing desert. It lives 1000 years old and when it feels tired and weak, it throws itself into the fire burned and the ashes it grows up again fresh and young. The Phoenix is a symbol of hope and ability to survive. It is the symbol the insistence despite the difficulties and the refusal to give up.

Roman legend also tells about a unique bird, Phoenix, fed by spices, every 500 years it is building a nest lined with myrrh and cinnamon where it dies. A new Phoenix is born from its dead remains. Egyptian mythology tells of a sacred bird called the Benno, it is renewable every 500 years and represents the god of the sun "Ra". The Benno crow symbolizes the sun rise and it is also a symbol of sun which was born in the morning and died that evening.

China tells of a bird named Feng. It is affiliated with with "male" Yang, with fire and sun. At the same time described as a bird Feng - Huang associated with "Lane", is feminine and delicate symbol of the moon, transformation, rebirth disappearance. In Judaism, one of the legends of the sages tells of a similar bird. This bird did not taste the fruit of Tree of Knowledge and won eternal life and every 1000 years it is renewed back as a teenager.

Sanhedrin tells Noah and his sons who bothered day and night feeding all beings in the box, including chicken was also named Orsina, according to Rashi this is Phoenix, who went to get its food. Noah's question why it did not come and the bird replied that it did not wanted to add trouble to Noah and his sons, so Noha blessed the bird with eternal life. Early Christian tradition adopted the phoenix as a symbol of immortality and resurrection. According to the Chinese Feng Shui, the Phoenix represents the direction which the house is facing and through it the tenants get the space and the vision in their lives. From this direction come opportunities.

**SKILL: Paragraph Development.**

In one or two (1-2) paragraphs, describe/explain in detail a time when you have faced some sort of adversity. Did you overcome it? If so, how?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thick black border, intended for the student to write their response to the prompt. The box occupies most of the page below the instructions.

# Notebook Check #2: Before Reading

**Introduction**  
REFLECTION:



**ANTICIPATION GUIDE:**

Before reading, mark your opinion in the appropriate column. Be prepared to explain your decision to the class. HINT: Think of real-world examples to support your argument.

Statement	
Agree	Disagree
	1. I believe that it is alright to hunt and kill animals for food.
	2. I believe it is alright to hunt and kill animals just for sport.
	3. I believe that murder is wrong in every instance.
	4. I believe that murder is wrong when my life is in danger or when someone is wishing me harm.
	5. I believe that is alright to have fun even when someone else gets hurt.
	6. I believe that all is fair in love and war.
	7. I believe that animals have feelings such as fear.
	8. I believe that humans are violent by nature.
	9. Violence begets violence (using force against people will cause them to become violent)
	10. Only the strong deserve to survive.

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:**

*Richard Connell—Discover points of interest about the author of “The Most Dangerous Game”*



## Notebook Check #3 Vocabulary

VOCABULARY: Define each of these terms from the story. Use prior knowledge or a thesaurus to determine synonyms, and come up with your own way to remember the definition (example from story, mnemonic device)

Term	Definition	Synonym	Example/Hint
Palpable (p. 24)	<b>EASILY FELT OR TOUCHED</b>	<b>TOUCHABLE; TANGIBLE; TACTILE</b>	
Tangible (p. 25)	<b>CAPABLE OF BEING TOUCHED OR FELT</b>		
Indolently (p. 25)	<b>LAZILY</b>		
Discern (p. 27)			
Disarming (p. 27)			
Amenities (p. 29)	<b>COMFORTS &amp; CONVENIENCES</b>	<b>LUXURIES; INDULGENCES</b>	
Imprudent (p. 30)			
Condone (p. 31)		<b>APPROVE; EXCUSE; OVERLOOK; IGNORE</b>	
Scruples (p. 32)			
Solicitously (p. 34)	<b>IN A CONCERNED MANNER</b>		
Opiate (p. 34)		<b>DRUG; NARCOTIC</b>	
Venerable (p. 35)	<b>RESPECTED; HONORED</b>		
Deplorable (p. 35)			
Imperative (p. 36)		<b>IMPORTANT; ESSENTIAL; CRITICAL</b>	
Precariously (p. 37)		<b>CARELESSLY; DANGEROUSLY</b>	
Zealous (p. 37)	<b>VERY EAGER; ENTHUSIASTIC</b>		

## Notebook Check #4 QUESTION GUIDE

1. **Making Predictions** (p. 24) Make a prediction about the story based on its title “The Most Dangerous Game.”
2. **Setting** (p. 24) What do we know about the story’s setting?
3. **Critical Thinking** (p. 25) What does each man’s opinion about hunting reveal about him?
4. **Figure of Speech** (p. 27) “[The chateau] was set on a high bluff, and on three sides of it cliffs dived down to where the sea licked greedy lips in the shadows.”
5. **Connect to Text** (p. 28) What do you think of the giant’s behavior when he answers the door?
6. **Conflict** (p. 35) Are Zaroff and Rainsford an even match? Why or why not?
7. **Character** (p. 35) What does the following statement reveal about Zaroff’s character? “We call it Death Swamp. There’s quick sand there. One foolish fellow tried it. The deplorable part of it was that Lazarus followed him... I loved Lazarus; he was the finest hound in my pack.”
8. **Figure of Speech** (p. 37) “An apprehensive night crawled slowly by like a wounded snake, and sleep did not visit Rainsford, although the silence of a dead world was on the jungle.”
9. **Conflict** (p. 37) Why does Zaroff smile and blow the smoke ring? Who seems to have the upper hand in the conflict at this point?

10. **Connect to Text** (p. 38) What does Rainsford finally come to understand about hunting?  
(HINT: This understanding contradicts his original beliefs.)

11. **Character** (p. 40) How do Zaroff's "slight annoyances" show his insanity?

12. **Connect to Text** (p. 40) What happens in the end? Who wins? What is suggested about Rainsford at the end of the page?

**Define theme**

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What is the theme of this story?

**Define motif**

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What is the motif of this story?

**Appearance vs. Reality:** In what way does Zaroff's appearance conflict with the reality of his personality and values?

	A CRIMINAL	ZAROFF
Residential area		
Type of dwelling		
Manner of speech		
Dining table furnishings		
Food and beverages consumed		
Family background		
Favorite activities, interests		

## Notebook Check 5: Figurative Language and Plot Devices

**Figurative Language:** Any expression that stretches the meaning of words beyond their literal meaning.

**Metaphor:** a figure of speech in which a comparison is implied by analogy but is not stated; the comparison of two unlike things without the use of –like or –as

1. **Example:** –the night would be my eyelids – a comparison between night and eyelids (25)

**Simile:** a comparison of two unlike things using –like or –as

1. **Example:** –...moonless Caribbean night... It's like moist black velvet – comparison of two unlike things, night and moist black velvet with the use of –like (24)

**Personification:** a metaphorical figure of speech in which animals, ideas, things, etc. are represented as having human qualities

1. **Example:** –...a sharp hunger was picking at him – hunger as something that could pick (26)

**Allusion:** an implicit reference to an historical, literary, or biblical character, event, or element

1. **Example:** –I have played the fox, now I must play the cat of the fable. – a reference to two of Aesop's fables (36)

**Irony:** a contradiction or incongruity between appearance or expectation and reality; a figure of speech in which the literal meaning of the words is the opposite of their intended meaning; an incongruity or discrepancy between an anticipated and realized outcome

1. **Example:** –We do our best to preserve the amenities of civilization here. Zaroff when he is hunting men for sport – is this civilized? (31)

### Literary Devices

**Suspense:** the sustained interest in a narrative created by delaying the resolution of the conflict; the excitement or tension the reader feels as they become involved in a story and eager to know the outcome.

1. **Example:** the author, Richard Connell, begins building suspense with mysterious references to Ship-Trap Island that has the crew very nervous (25)
2. **Example:** through repetition – ...nearer, then still nearer, nearer, ever nearer. (39)

**Foreshadowing:** any clue or hint of future events in a narrative

1. **Example:** –the place [Ship-Trap Island] has a reputation—a bad one. This will be the place where Rainsford's life will be threatened (25)

### Practice:

Using the examples provided as a guide, identify the figurative language term or plot device that is being used in each of the quotes/statements below. Make sure to go back to the story to read the quote in context. Record the page number. Write the figurative language or plot device term in the space provided.

1. –blood warm waters...

page # \_\_\_\_\_

2. –He knew his pursuer was coming...

page # \_\_\_\_\_

3. Zaroff does not say he regards man as the most dangerous game.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. –The sea was as flat as a plate-glass window.

page # \_\_\_\_\_

5. –...he found the general studying him...

page # \_\_\_\_\_

6. –Following the trail with the sureness of a bloodhound...



page # \_\_\_\_\_

7. –...the muck sucked viciously at his foot as if it were a giant leech.

page # \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

8. Rainsford, the hunter, is now being hunted.

page # \_\_\_\_\_

9. –What perils that tangle of trees and underbrush might hold for him did not concern Rainsford just then.

page # \_\_\_\_\_

10. –The lights of the yacht became faint and ever-vanishing fireflies...

page # \_\_\_\_\_

11. –The cat was coming again to play with the mouse.

page # \_\_\_\_\_

12. –But perhaps the general was a devil

page # \_\_\_\_\_

13. –I have electricity. We try to be civilized here.

page # \_\_\_\_\_

14. –...a screen of leaves almost as thick as tapestry...

page # \_\_\_\_\_

15. –giant rocks with razor edges crouch like a sea monster with wide open jaws.

page # \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

Extra Credit: Find two new examples of similes, metaphors, and/or personification. You must write the quote, page #, and figurative language term.

### Examples of foreshadowing in the story

### Explanation of Foreshadowing

Whitney tells Rainsford about the evil reputation of the island.	
The island is called Ship Trap Island, and Sailors fear it.	
Zaroff tells Rainsford that he has found a new, more dangerous animal to hunt.	
Rainsford hears gunshots as he swims towards the island.	

# Notebook Check #6 Plot Sequence and Characterization

## Define plot

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Fill in the following list IN THE ORDER IN WHICH THINGS HAPPENED.

- a. Zaroff tells Rainsford he hunts most dangerous prey: man.
- b. Rainsford leaps off of a cliff into the sea.
- c. The sea is the Caribbean Sea.
- d. Rainsford loses his balance and falls into the sea.
- e. Zaroff uses the dogs to hunt Rainsford.
- f. Zaroff stands below Rainsford (who's up a tree), smiles, and moves on.
- g. Zaroff thinks that Rainsford is dead.
- h. Rainsford kills Ivan.
- i. Rainsford has never slept in a more comfortable bed.
- j. Zaroff asks Rainsford to join him in hunting his prey.
- k. Rainsford is on a yacht bound for the Amazon.
- l. Rainsford refuses to join in hunting.
- m. Rainsford talks with Whitney about "ship trap" island.
- n. Rainsford builds a Malay man-catcher.
- o. Zaroff loses one of his best dogs.
- p. Rainsford builds a Burmese Tiger Pit.
- q. Zaroff shows Rainsford how he traps ships with lights that indicate a channel.
- r. We find out Rainsford is a big game hunter.
- s. Whitney muses on his thought of the "game."
- t. Rainsford confronts Zaroff in his bedroom.

## The Plot- Exposition (setting, characters, conflict)

- 1.
- 2.
3. The sea is in the Caribbean Sea.

- 4.
- 5.

## Rising Action (Complications)

6. Rainsford loses his balance and falls into the sea.

- 7.
- 8.
- 9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15. Zaroff loses one of his best dogs.

16.

17.

18.

## Climax

19.

## Resolution

20.

**Direct Characterization:** The writer makes explicit statements about a character (the writer tells you about the character)

Examples:

- dead black eyes (pg. 23)
- curious, red-lipped smile (18)

**Find two more examples from the story of direct characterization.**

**Indirect Characterization:** The writer reveals a character through the character's words, thoughts, and actions and through what other characters think and say about that character.

Examples:

- No one has survived his game so far.
- He is no longer challenged by hunting animals.

**Find two more examples from the story of indirect characterization.**

## Notebook Check #7 BODY BIOGRAPHY

You will use the back of this sheet and coloring materials to create a “body biography” for a character from “The Most Dangerous Game.”

A body biography is a visual and written representation illustrating the character and several aspects of that character’s life and personality within the story.

- You may choose between Rainsford and General Zaroff for this assignment.
- The character traits you choose to represent either character should be based on the text.

### Your biography MUST contain:

1. Three visual symbols that represent traits or qualities of the character you have chosen which you will place somewhere significant on the body.
  - a. For example, the character’s brain or spine is a good place to illustrate his main motivation. His heart might be a good place to illustrate important relationships or what he treasures.
2. A short paragraph explaining why you chose these symbols, what they represent, what they say about that character’s personality, and why you chose to place them where you did on the body.
3. One quote from the story ***spoken by or about the character*** (this quote should characterize, or show the reader something important about the character)
  - a. Properly cite your quote in MLA format. We will go over this in class.
  - b. Identify your quote as either indirect or direct characterization
4. A motto by which the character would live or might say that relates to his personality. (You create this!)
  - a. Example: You only live once (DO NOT use this example)

### Things to think about:

**-Good or bad?**-Think about your character’s best qualities as well as his or her worst.

**-Color**-Colors often have meaning. What color do you most associate with your character? How could it fit into your visual representation?

**-Inside/Outside**-Consider the way the character you chose is presented in the book. How does the character see himself? Does this differ from the way other people see him? How might you show this?

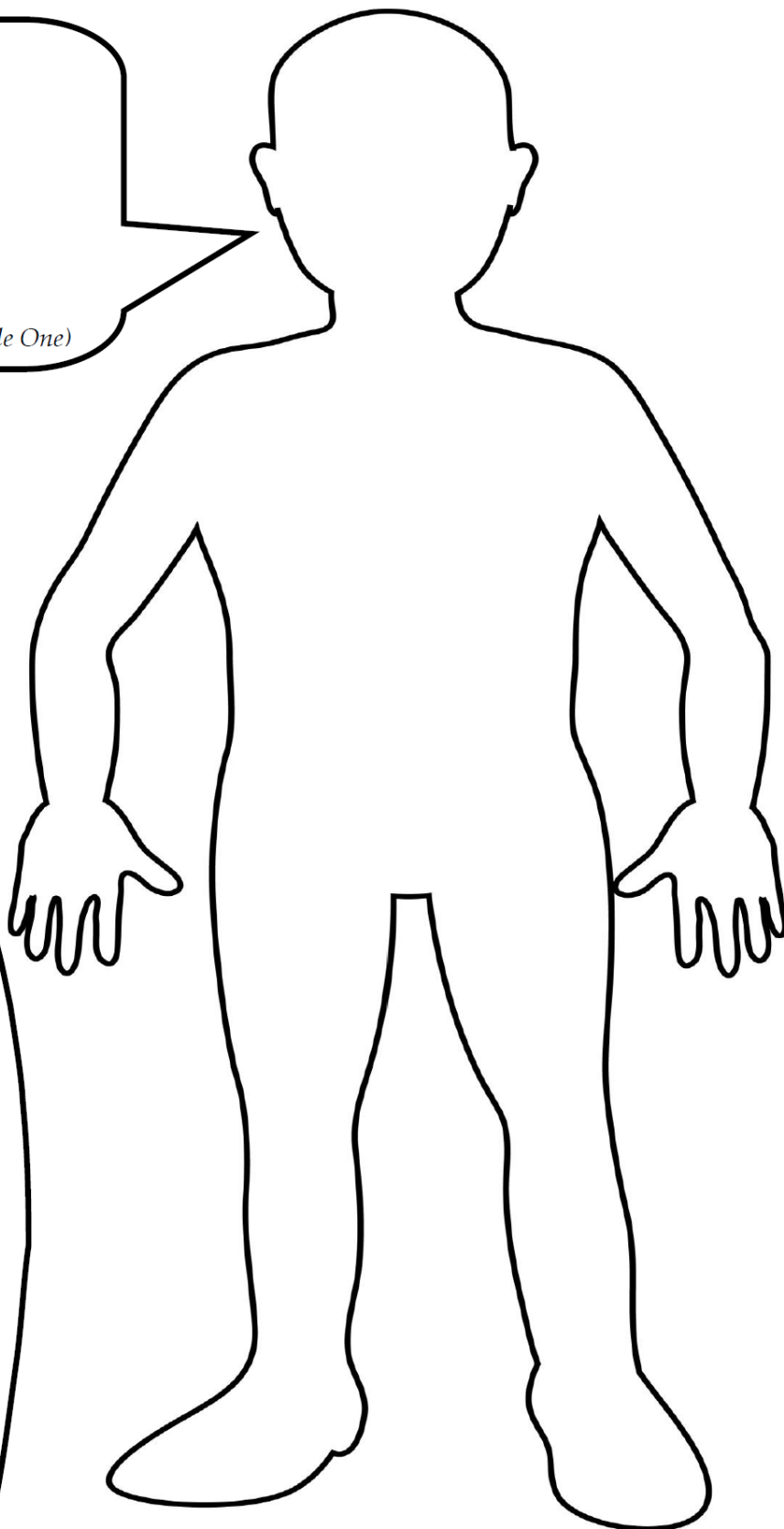
### Assessment:

- \_\_\_\_ At least 3 visual symbols are used
- \_\_\_\_ Symbols are placed with thought and reason
- \_\_\_\_ Explanation of symbolism is clear and thoughtful
- \_\_\_\_ One relevant quote
- \_\_\_\_ Quote is cited correctly
- \_\_\_\_ Direct or indirect characterization is identified correctly
- \_\_\_\_ Motto is thoughtful and shows connection to character
- \_\_\_\_ Creativity/ Color

Quote:

*Characterization: Direct or Indirect (Circle One)*

Explanation of Symbols:



Motto:

## Notebook Check #8 Conflict and Suspense

Conflict: *A STRUGGLE BETWEEN TWO FORCES: MAN VS. MAN, MAN VS. NATURE, MAN VS. SOCIETY, OR MAN VS. SELF*

<i>Question</i>	<i>Type of Conflict</i>	<i>Description of Conflict</i>
(p. 26) What type of conflict is described in the second paragraph?	<b>EXTERNAL: MAN VS. NATURE <u>AND</u> INTERNAL: MAN VS. SELF</b>	<b>BETWEEN RAINSFORD AND THE SEA AS HE FIGHTS TO KEEP FROM DROWNING; WITH HIMSELF TO STAY STRONG ENOUGH TO NOT DROWN</b>
(p. 30) How has the lack of external conflict led to an internal conflict for General Zaroff?	<b>INTERNAL: MAN VS. SELF</b>	
(p. 35) When Zaroff wants Rainsford to “say nothing of his visit here,” what type of conflict is portrayed?		
(p. 35) What kind of conflict is presented when Rainsford says, “I’ll agree to nothing of the kind”?		<b>RAINSFORD REFUSES TO AGREE TO STAY SILENT ABOUT ZAROFF’S ISLAND IF RAINSFORD EVER MAKES IT OFF THE ISLAND.</b>

Suspense: *A FEELING OF CURIOSITY, UNCERTAINTY, OR DREAD ABOUT WHAT’S GOING TO HAPPEN NEXT*

<b>Examples of suspense in the story</b>	<b>How the suspense affects the reader</b>
(p.25) “This place has an evil name among seafaring men, sir.”	<i>The reader can conclude that evil things happen on the island.</i>
(p.26) Rainsford heard, “a high screaming sound, the sound of an animal in an extremity of anguish and terror.”	<i>The reader can conclude that the “thing” is experiencing terror, pain, anguish and eventually, death. Note: foreshadowing—an “animal” that he doesn’t recognize gives us a clue</i>
(p. 31) Zaroff says, “I had to invent a new animal to hunt.”	
(p.35) “Au revoir, Mr. Rainsford, au revoir.” General Zaroff, with a deep, courtly bow, strolled from the room.”	

## Notebook Check #9: Compare and Contrast

<b>“The Most Dangerous Game”</b>	<b>and</b>	<b>“MOVIE”</b>
	<b>How Are They Alike?</b> Describe five ways that the movie and the short story are alike. Think about characters, setting, and order of events.	

<b>“The Most Dangerous Game”</b>	<b>vs.</b>	<b>“MOVIE”</b>
	<b>How Are They Different?</b> Describe five ways that the movie and the short story are different. Think about characters, setting, and order of events.	

**Conclusions/Connections I Can Make: Describe which was better and why.**

## **Notebook Check #10 Adversity Journal Entries**

**1. React to these pictures. How do they express the theme of overcoming adversity?**

**2. I've heard there are troubles of more than one kind; some come from ahead, and some come from behind. But I've brought a big bat. I'm all ready, you see; now my troubles are going to have troubles with me!**

**-Dr. Seuss**

**Respond to the above quote in a paragraph. Explain its meaning and then express your opinions. You may want to connect your own experiences.**

**3. Watch the You Tube video about a child with no home. Respond with your reactions and connections to our theme of adversity.**

**4. React to the following you tube video about being deaf and then can suddenly hear?**

**How do you feel after watching the clip, and how is your life normal to you? Maybe your sense of normal would be abnormal to another. Talk about it on paper.**

**Big idea:** How do the characters in this story face adversity or potential adversity? Do they overcome their adversity? What factors contributed to their success or failure? What is the most important factor in overcoming adversity?



