

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ #\_\_\_\_ Block\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Short Stories Notebook Check

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

# Notebook Check #1:

# THE ELEMENTS OF A SHORT STORY

**Modeled Through the Fairy Tale “Cinderella”**

1-) **Setting**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*



2-) **Characters**:

a-) **Protagonist**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*

 b-) **Antagonist**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*

3-) **Point of View**:

a-) **First Person:**

b-) **Third Person:**

 **1. Third Person Omniscient:**

 **2. Third Person Limited:**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*



4-) **Theme**:

a-) **Stated Theme:**

b-) **Implied Theme:**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*

5-) **Plot**:

6-) **Conflict**:

a-) **External Conflict:**

b-) **Internal Conflict:**

**Exposition**

**Rising Action**

**Falling Action**

**Resolution**

**THE PARTS OF A PLOT**

1-) **Exposition:**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*

2-) **Rising Action::**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*

3-) **Climax:**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*

4-) **Falling Action:**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*

5-) **Resolution:**

*Example from “Cinderella”:*

**Notebook check #2:**

**Short Story Elements Cooperative Grouping Activity Information Recording**

*Names of Group Members*:

**Station 1: “Rapunzel”**

Protagonist: Antagonist:

Other Characters:

Point of View:

Internal Conflict:

External Conflict:

**Station 2: “The Elves and the Shoemaker”**

Theme:

Stated or Implied:

Definition of it:

Connect to the Text:

**Station 3: “Jack and the Beanstalk”**

Exposition:

Rising Action Event 1:

Rising Action Event 2:

Rising Action Event 3:

Rising Action Event 4:

Climax:

Falling Action:

Resolution:

**Notebook check #3: Short Story Element Crossword Puzzle**

**Notebook check #4: “A Man Who Had No Eyes”**

by MacKinlay Kantor

**Directions: After reading “A Man Who Had No Eyes,” read each of the following questions and respond to them in complete sentences.**

**Describe the beggar. What is he wearing?**

***Paraphrase* the information from Paragraph three of the story which describes Mr. Parsons**

**Why does the beggar speak to Mr. Parsons?**

 A beggar was coming down the avenue just as Mr. Parsons emerged from his hotel.

 He was a blind beggar, carrying the traditional battered cane, and thumping his way before him with a cautious, half-furtive effort of the sightless. He was a shaggy, thick-necked fellow; his coat was greasy about the lapels and pockets, and his hand splayed over the cane's crook with a futile sort of clinging. He wore a black pouch slung over his shoulder. Apparently he had something to sell.

 The air was rich with spring; sun was warm and yellowed on the asphalt. Mr. Parsons, standing there in front of his hotel and noting the clack-clack approach of the sightless man, felt a sudden and foolish sort of pity for all blind creatures.

 And, thought Mr. Parsons, he was very glad to be alive. A few years ago he had been little more than a skilled laborer; how he was successful, respected, admired . . .Insurance . . .And he had done it alone, unaided, struggling beneath handicaps . . .and he was still young. The blue air of spring, fresh from its memories of windy cools and lush shrubbery, could thrill him with eagerness.

 He took a step forward just as the tap-tapping blind man passed him by. Quickly the shabby fellow turned. "Listen, guv'nor. Just a minute of your time."

 Mr. Parsons said, "It's late. I have an appointment. Do you want me to give you something?"

 "I ain't no beggar guv'nor. You bet I ain't. I got a handy little article here"--he fumbled until he could press a small object into Mr. Parsons' hand--"that I sell. One buck. Best cigarette lighter made."

 Mr. Parsons stood there, somewhat annoyed and embarrassed. He was a handsome figure with his immaculate gray suit and gray hat and Malacca stick. Of course the man with the cigarette lighters could not see him. . ."But I don't smoke," he said.

 "Listen. I bet you know plenty people who smoke. Nice little present," wheedled the man. "And mister, you wouldn't mind helping a poor guy out?" He clung to Mr. Parsons' sleeve.

 Mr. Parsons sighed and felt in his vest pocket. He brought out two half dollars and pressed them into the man's hand. "Certainly. I'll help you out. As you say, I can give it to someone. Maybe the elevator boy would--” He hesitated, not wishing to be boorish and inquisitive, even with a blind peddler. "Have you lost your sight entirely?"

 The shabby man pocketed the two half dollars. "Fourteen years, guv'nor." Then he added with an insane sort of pride: "Westbury, sir. I was one of 'em.”

 "Westbury," repeated Mr. Parsons. "Ah, yes. The chemical explosion . . .The papers haven't mentioned it for years. But at the same time it was supposed to be one of the greatest disasters in--"

 "They've all forgot about it." The fellow shifted his feet wearily. "I tell you, guv'nor, a man who was in it don't forget about it. Last thing I ever saw was C shop going up in one grand smudge, and gas pouring in at all the busted windows."

 Mr. Parsons coughed, but the blind peddler was caught up with the train of his one dramatic reminiscence. And also, he was thinking that there might be more half dollars in Mr. Parsons' pocket.

 "Just think about it, guv'nor. There was 108 people killed, about 200 injured, and over 50 of them lost their eyes. Blind as bats--" He groped forward until his dirty hand rested against Mr. Parsons' coat. "I tell you, sir, there wasn't nothing worse than that in the war. If I had lost my eyes in the war, OK. I would have been well took care of. But I was just a workman, working for what was in it. And I got it. You're darn right I got it, while the capitalists were making their dough! They was insured, don't worry about that. They--"

 "Insured," repeated his listener. "Yes. That's what I sell--"

 "You want to know how I lost my eyes," cried the man. "Well, here it is!" His words fell with the bitter and studied drama of a story often told, and told for money. "I was there in C shop, last of all the folks rushing out. Out in the air there was a chance, even with buildings exploding right and left. A lot of guys made it safe out the door and got away. And just when I was about there, crawling along between those big vats, a guy behind me grabs my leg. He says, 'Let me pass, you—!' Maybe he was nuts. I dunno. I try to forgive him in my heart, guv'nor. But he was bigger than me. He hauled me back and climbs right over me! Tramples me into the dirt. And he gets out, and I lie there with all that poison gas pouring down on all sides of me, and flame and stuff …” He swallowed--a studied sob--and stood dumbly expectant. He could imagine the next words: ‘Tough luck, my man. Now, I want to—‘

 "That's the story, guv'nor."

 The spring wind shrilled past them, damp and quivering.

 "Not quite," said Mr. Parsons.

 The blind peddler shivered crazily. "Not quite? What do you mean you--"

"The story is true," Mr. Parsons said, "except that it was the other way around."

 "Other way around?" he croaked unamiably. "Say, guv'nor--"

 "I was in C shop, " said Mr. Parsons. "It was the other way around. You were the fellow who hauled back on me and climbed over me. You were bigger than I was, Marks."

 The blind man stood for a long time, swallowing hoarsely. He gulped: "Parsons. By God. By God! I thought you--" And then he screamed fiendishly: "Yes. Maybe so. Maybe so. But I’m blind. I’m blind! And you’ve been standing here letting me spout to you, and laughing at me every minute! I’m blind!”

 People in the street turned to stare at him.

 “You go away, but I’m blind! Do you hear? I’m—“

 "Well," said Mr. Parsons, "don't make such a row about it, Marks. So am I."

**Summarize what Marks Says happened during the Westbury chemical explosion. Why does the beggar tell Mr. Parsons about the Westbury explosion?**

**What does “He swallowed – a practiced sob-” tell us about the beggar’s motives?**

**What can you infer about Marks’s life after the Westbury chemical explosion?**

**State at least two details the author revealed that led you to conclude that Mr. Parsons was blind. Use specific evidence from the text.**

**How has each man’s character determined (or created) the path he took in life (i.e. the plot of his life’s story)?**

**What do you think McKinley Kantor’s theme is in this story (his message for you)?**

**Notebook check #5: Introduction to Short Stories Assessment**

**English I - Unit 1: Introduction to Short Stories Test**

*SHORT STORY TERMINOLOGY: Write the letter of the best possible answer for each item on the line provided. (2 points each)*

1. The point from which the story is told is called the

 A. setting C. theme

 B. point of view D. character

2. The sequence of events in a story that usually deal with a problem and develop around a conflict

 is called the

 A. external conflict C. climax

 B. theme D. plot

3. When the conflict/problem is resolved, it’s called the

 A. resolution C. rising action

 B. third person D. stated theme

4. The main character in a story, the person who sets the plot in motion, is called the

 A. antagonist C. first person

 B. protagonist D. exposition

5. When the narrator is a character in the story and uses *I* and *me* to tell the story, the story is told

 in this point of view:

 A. third person limited C. first person

 B. second person D. third person omniscient

6. The time and place in which a story happens is the

 A. characters C. point of view

 B. setting D. plot

7. The central message of the story that readers can apply to their lives is the

 A. protagonist C. theme

 B. falling action D. internal conflict

8. The part of the plot that introduces the story’s characters, setting and conflict is called the

 A. climax C. exposition

 B. rising action D. resolution

9. This occurs inside the mind of a character who struggles with opposing feelings or with a

 decision on how to act:

 A. internal conflict C. plot

 B. external conflict D. falling action

10. The person in conflict with the main character is called the

 A. antagonist C. third person

 B. protagonist D. first person

11. This narrator knows everything that’s going on:

 A. third person omniscient C. first person

 B. antagonist D. third person limited

12. This part of the plot occurs after the highest point in the plot:

 A. exposition C. falling action

 B. rising action D. resolution

13. When a theme is directly presented in a story, it is known as this type of theme:

 A. omniscient C. limited

 B. implied D. stated

14. This is the highest point in the plot; it’s when emotion is at its highest:

 A. rising action C. resolution

 B. exposition D. climax

15. When the narrator describes events as one character sees them, the point of view is known as

 A. second person C. third person limited

 B. first person omniscient D. first person

16. When a theme must be pieced together by clues provided in a story, it is known as a/an:

 A. omniscient C. limited

 B. implied D. stated

17. When a character struggles with an outside force, such as another character, nature, society or

 fate, this struggle is known as:

 A. rising action C. external conflict

 B. internal conflict D. point of view

18. During this part of the plot, the conflict develops with complications and twists:

 A. climax C. resolution

 B. rising action D. exposition

19. The people in a story are known as:

 A. plots C. characters

 B. narrators D. themes

20. This narrator describes the story from the outside and is not a character in the story:

 A. third person C. fourth person

 B. first person D. second person

*APPLICATION OF TERMINOLOGY: Match each part of “Cinderella” to its corresponding plot part.*

A. **Climax** B. **Resolution** C. **Exposition** D. **Rising Action** E. **Falling Action**

21. Cinderella and the Prince live happily ever after.

22. Cinderella lives with her evil stepmother and stepsisters who have made her their slave.

23. Cinderella and the Prince get married in a ceremony at the castle. Her stepmother and

 stepsisters can no longer call Cinderella their slave.

24. Cinderella’s foot fits perfectly into the glass slipper that the Prince places on her foot.

25. An invitation arrives to a ball at the palace. Cinderella’s fairy godmother prepares her for the

 ball. Cinderella attends the ball and meets the Prince.

# *APPLICATION OF TERMINOLOGY: Read “The Little Girl and the Wolf” and answer the questions that follow.*

# The Little Girl and the Wolf

*by James Thurber*

One afternoon a big wolf waited in a dark forest for a little girl to come along carrying a basket of food to her grandmother. Finally a little girl did come along and she was carrying a basket of food. "Are you carrying that basket to your grandmother?" asked the wolf. The little girl said yes, she was. So the wolf asked her where her grandmother lived and the little girl told him and he disappeared into the wood.

When the little girl opened the door of her grandmother's house she saw that there was somebody in bed with a nightcap and nightgown on. She had approached no nearer than twenty-five feet from the bed when she saw that it was not her grandmother but the wolf, for even in a nightcap a wolf does not look any more like your grandmother than the Metro-Goldwyn lion looks like Calvin Coolidge. So the little girl took an automatic out of her basket and shot the wolf dead.

*Moral: It is not so easy to fool little girls nowadays as it used to be.*

26. Which of the following answer choices would not be included in the description of the setting?

 A. in the dark forest C. Metro-Goldwyn

 B. grandmother’s house D. late afternoon

27. The little girl would be considered

 A. a minor character C. the antagonist

 B. the protagonist D. a flat character

28. The wolf’s character would be

 A. a dynamic character C. the antagonist

 B. the protagonist D. a major character

29. The narrator tells the story in

 A. first person point of view C. third person omniscient point of view

 B. second person point of view D. third person limited point of view

30. The theme of the story

 A. is implied when the little girl shoots the wolf.

 B. is stated when the moral of the story is presented at the end of the story.

 C. is implied when the moral of the story is presented at the end of the story.

 D. is stated when the narrator reveals that the wolf does not look like a grandmother.

31. The conflict

 A. is internal because the girl must face the inner struggle of choosing to shoot the wolf.

 B. is external because the girl battles the wolf.

 C. is external because the wolf battles the grandmother.

 D. is internal because the little girl struggles in her relationship with her grandmother.

32. The climax of the story occurs when

 A. the little girl carried a basket of food into the dark forest.

 B. the work disappears into the woods.

 C. the little girl realizes the wolf is not her grandmother.

 D. the little girl shoots the wolf.