

# Response to Literature Menus



Holland Poulsen



# MENU #1

<b>Synthesizing/Creating</b>	<p><u><b>Summarize</b></u></p> <p>Select Create a new summary for the back cover of the book. Be sure that the summary would influence other people to read the book.</p>	<p><u><b>Action Packed!</b></u></p> <p>Select a minor character in the book and explain how he or she contributes to the action of the story and how without this character the plot of the story would be different.</p>	<p><u><b>Haiku</b></u></p> <p>Create a haiku about a place or concept in the story. Remember, a haiku is a three-line poem with 5 syllables in the first line, 7 syllables in the second line, and 5 syllables in the third line.</p>
<b>Evaluation</b>	<p><u><b>Advice Column</b></u></p> <p>Imagine that you are a writer for a local newspaper and that every week you produce an advice column. Create a question based on the traits of a character in the book and write a response to the question helping the character to solve a problem.</p>	<p><u><b>Job Application</b></u></p> <p>Choose a main character in the book. What profession is this character likely to have when he or she grows up? Design a job application and complete it based on what you know about the main character.</p>	<p><u><b>Let's Talk</b></u></p> <p>Choose two characters in the book and create dialogue for a scene that is not included in the book, but one that would make the book more interesting if it were added.</p>
<b>Application and Analysis</b>	<p><u><b>Surprise Prize</b></u></p> <p>Some companies are beginning to package books along with a toy, a charm, or another item that relates to what happens in the story. Create an item that you think kids would like based on what happens in the story.</p>	<p><u><b>Letter to the Author</b></u></p> <p>Select Imagine you are a publishing company and the books has been submitted to you as a manuscript. Write a letter to the author stating what you liked about the book and make suggestions for changes.</p>	<p><u><b>What Are You Feeling?</b></u></p> <p>Select parts of the book that were the funniest, saddest, happiest and most unbelievable. Describe the event or situation and describe your personal reaction to the parts.</p>

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# MENU #2

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Evaluation	<p><b><u>Illustrate a Character</u></b></p> <p>Draw a detailed illustration of a character from the book. The drawing should indicate the character's personality, physical traits, interest, etc. Label each detail, explaining from which part of the story it comes from.</p>	<p><b><u>Cast Director</u></b></p> <p>Imagine that a movie version of the book is being made. As the director, which actors and actresses would you cast as the lead characters? Why?</p>	<p><b><u>New Kid on the Block</u></b></p> <p>Imagine that the main character moved into your neighborhood. Based on events in the book, describe what it would be like to have him or her living next door.</p>
Application and Analysis	<p><b><u>One Act Play</u></b></p> <p>Create finger puppets and write a one act play depicting an important part of the book.</p>	<p><b><u>You and I</u></b></p> <p>Select an action of the main character that was similar to something you might have done. Describe what the character did and how and why you would have done the same thing.</p>	<p><b><u>Fact or Opinion</u></b></p> <p>Central characters often express their opinions throughout a story. Select five different statements from the main character and argue whether those statements that are opinions could be actual facts.</p>

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# MENU #3

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Evaluation	<p><b><u>Job Reference</u></b></p> <p>Imagine that the main character is applying for a job. Write a reference letter for him or her recommending him for a job based on character traits in the story.</p>	<p><b><u>10 Questions</u></b></p> <p>Create ten true/false statements based on the book. Give your quiz to a friend who has read the book and see how well he or she has comprehended the story. If you and your friend disagree about any of the answers, check the book to find out who is correct.</p>	<p><b><u>Video Games</u></b></p> <p>Create a newspaper or magazine ad for a new computer game based on the book. Be sure that the ad explains the game's general design and instructions on how to play the game.</p>
Application and Analysis	<p><b><u>Round/ Flat Characters</u></b></p> <p>All books contain different types of characters. Round characters are complex and have many different aspects to their personalities. A flat character on the other hand, lacks depth and is uncomplicated. Identify a round character and a flat character in the book. Explain why the character fit each definition.</p>	<p><b><u>Photo Album</u></b></p> <p>Using various graphics, generate a photo album page that might belong to one of the characters in the book. You need to have captions under each photo explaining how it relates to the character.</p>	<p><b><u>Top Ten Song List</u></b></p> <p>Write a list of ten song titles that give clues about important events in the book. Make sure that each title is catchy and mimics the title of a song.</p>



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# Response to Literature Task Cards





What elements are common to acts of heroism? Create a checklist that can be used to identify heroic acts. As you read the novel, fill in the checklist with heroic elements and examples of these elements from the text.

Then create a headline and one short paragraph for about the heroic character that might be found on the front page of the local newspaper or news homepage.

Imagine this text was to be made into a movie.

*Who would be cast as each of the main characters?*

Be sure to explain why each actor/actress would be the best choice to portray each character. What about them (e.g., physical traits, personality, past roles, reputation, etc.) makes them perfect for each role?

Think about the theme to the novel you read. Is it similar to another text you have read? Explain how the themes from the two texts are similar and give specific text evidence to support your thinking.

Words are powerful.

Identify specific words the author uses to convey meaning and ideas in this story.

Once you have identified a set of words, determine synonyms for at least five of them and give a short explanation of why you believe the author selected the word in the text rather than any of the synonyms you located.

Pretend you are a talk show host and you are interviewing one of the main characters from the novel.

Write down a list of the questions you would ask the character.

Include responses to the questions based on how you believe the character would respond.

Choose a character from your novel and imagine that he or she was going on a trip.

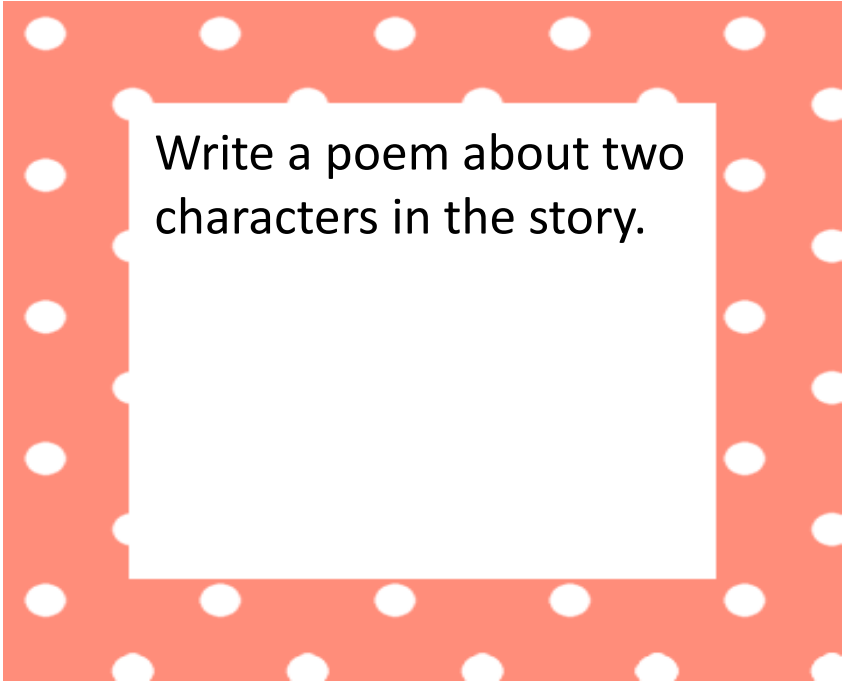
What would the character pack into the suitcase?

Describe the contents of the suitcase and why each item was chosen.

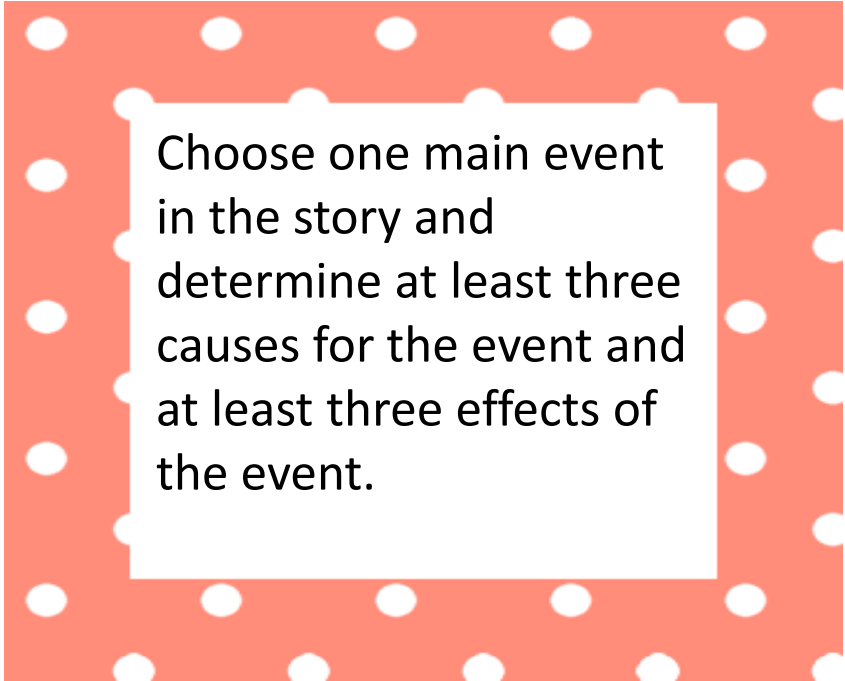
Select at least six actions the character took during the course of the novel. Create an emotional timeline to show how the character might have been feeling during each event. Include the following on your timeline:

- description of event
- character's emotional response or attitude
- symbol to signify the emotional aspect of the character for each event

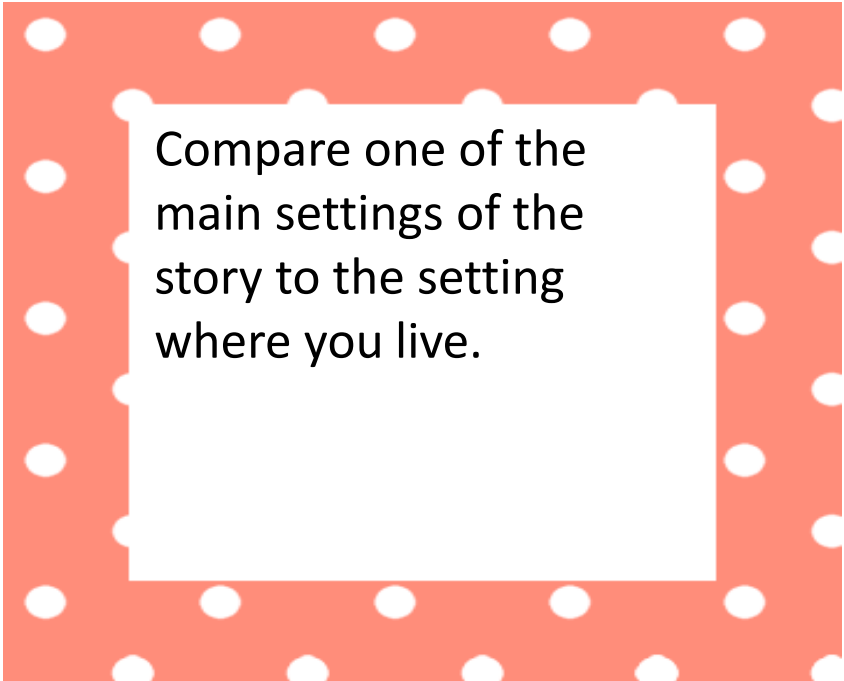
What do you think happened after the story ended? Describe the next scene or chapter of the book.



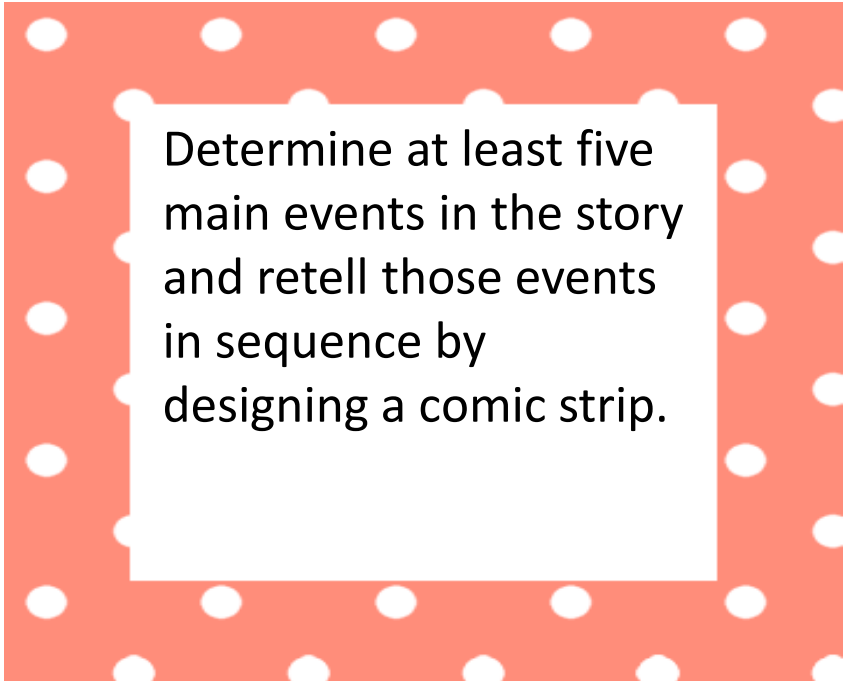
Write a poem about two characters in the story.



Choose one main event in the story and determine at least three causes for the event and at least three effects of the event.



Compare one of the main settings of the story to the setting where you live.



Determine at least five main events in the story and retell those events in sequence by designing a comic strip.

Explain why you think the author chose this title for the story. Then create a new possible title and explain why you chose it.

Relationships between characters are important to a story. Who do you think has the most important relationship with the main character? Explain.

If you could invite one of the characters from the story to spend the day with you, which character would you invite? Describe your day together.

Which character in the story is most like you? Explain the ways in which you two are similar and different.

Describe how the role of the supporting characters are important to the story. Be specific and give text evidence to support your ideas.

Think of one word you would you use to describe the plot and explain why you choose that word.

Choose a character from the book and imagine that you walked into his or her room. What would you find in the room and why?

Make connections to the story including two of the following:

- a connection between your life and the story
- a connection between this story and another story
- a connection between this story and the real world

What part of the story would you change if possible? Explain your choice and what changes you would make.

What symbol would you choose to represent the main character's personality? Draw the symbol and explain its significance.

Create a conversation between two characters in your book. Explain at what point in the book this conversation would take place.

Explain how this text represents information that you believe all students should know.



Make a hypothesis about what may have changed in the book if a character were in a different setting in the book.

Draw a diagram of something important that was described in the book and label all of the parts.

Which character do you most strongly disagree with or disapprove of? Explain why.

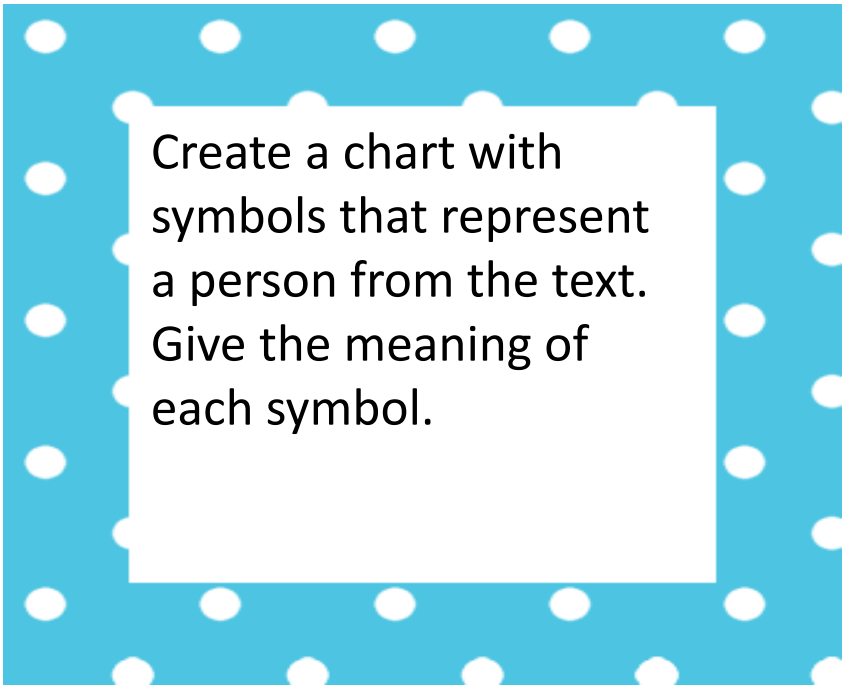
Write a letter to the author describing your feelings, reactions, and new knowledge about the book.

Write a letter to the main character. Ask him or her questions about what they did or choices they made. Tell them what you would do differently.

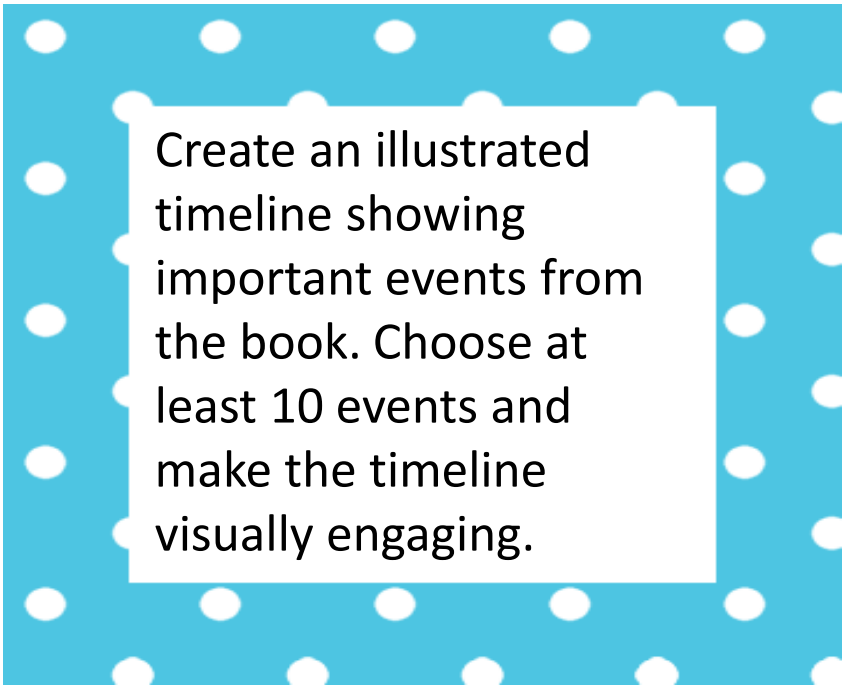
Create a reader's theatre from a few pages of the book. Invite others to perform your reader's theatre scene.

Create a test for your book. Come up with ten questions that will check reader's understanding of the book. Make sure to include only information that can be found in the book.

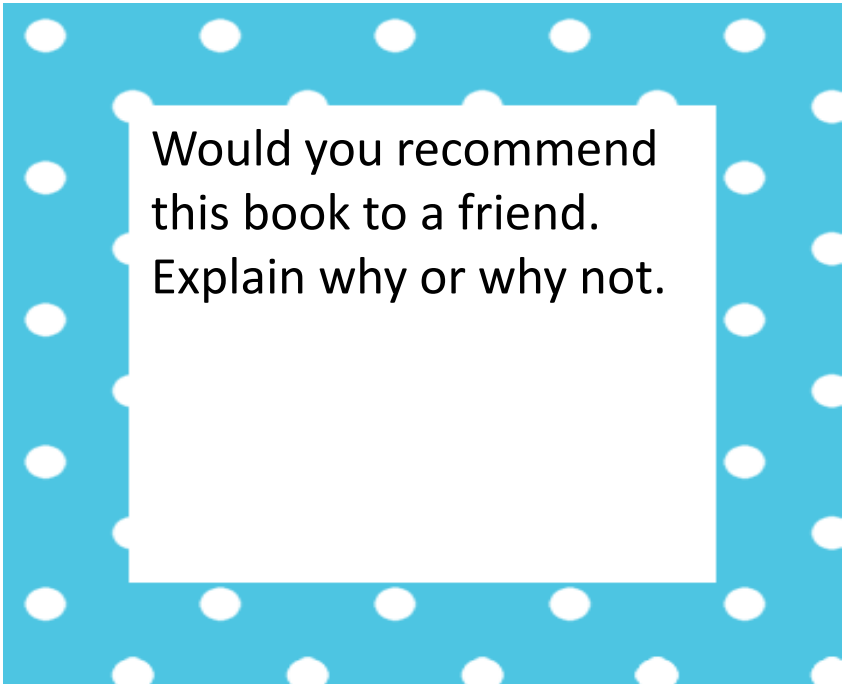
Describe parts of the text that appeal to each of the five senses. Use text evidence and page numbers and explain.



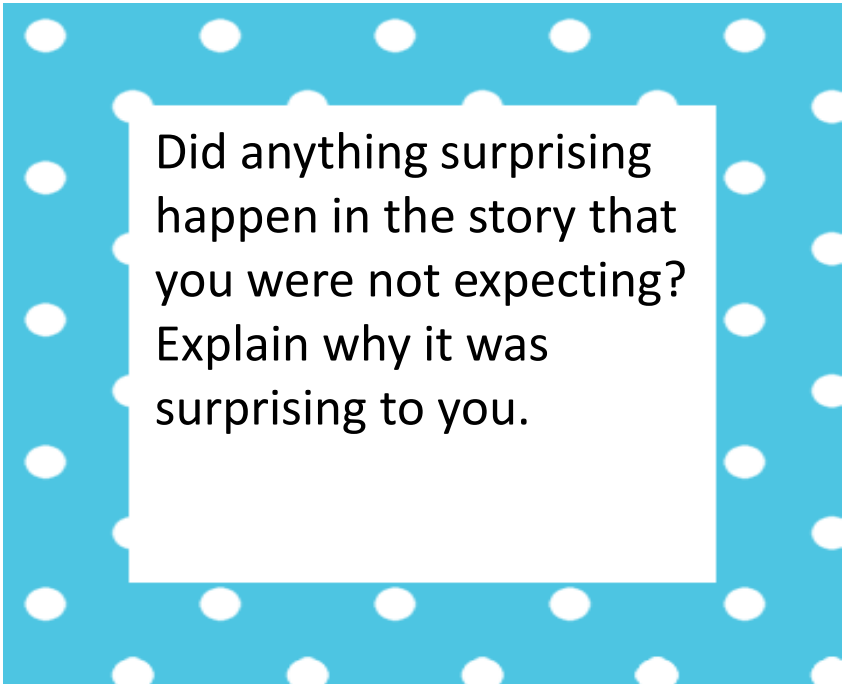
Create a chart with symbols that represent a person from the text. Give the meaning of each symbol.



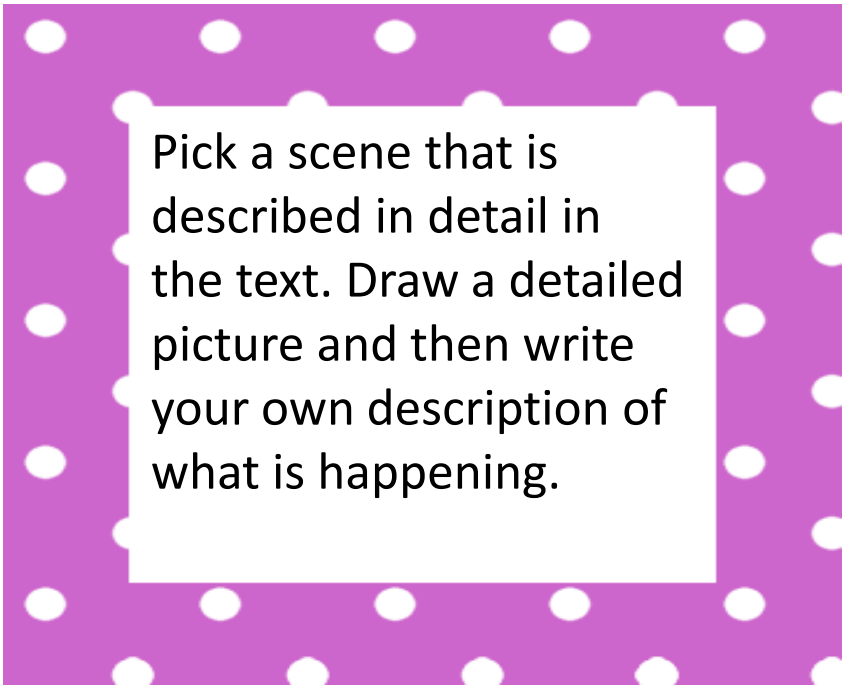
Create an illustrated timeline showing important events from the book. Choose at least 10 events and make the timeline visually engaging.



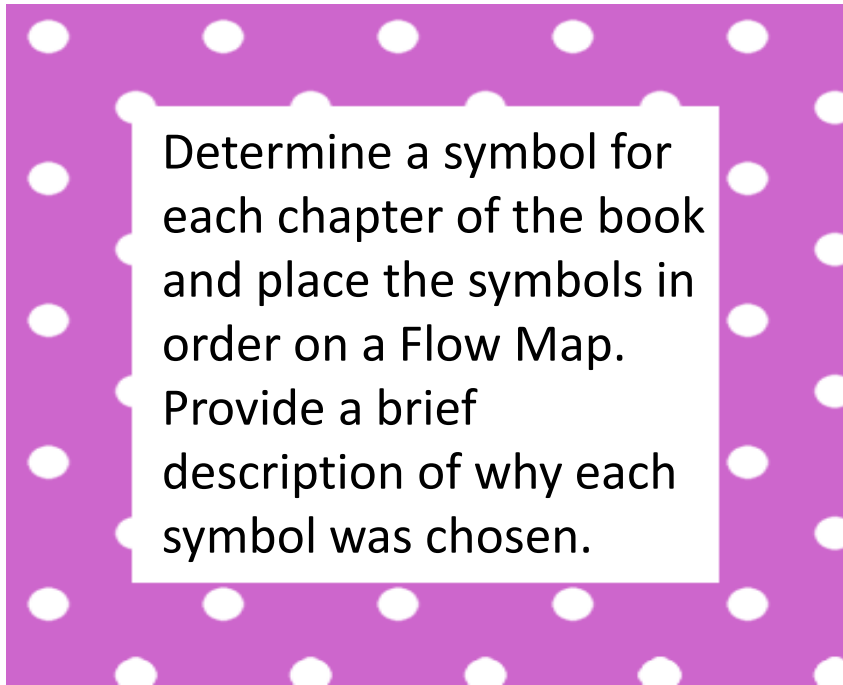
Would you recommend this book to a friend. Explain why or why not.



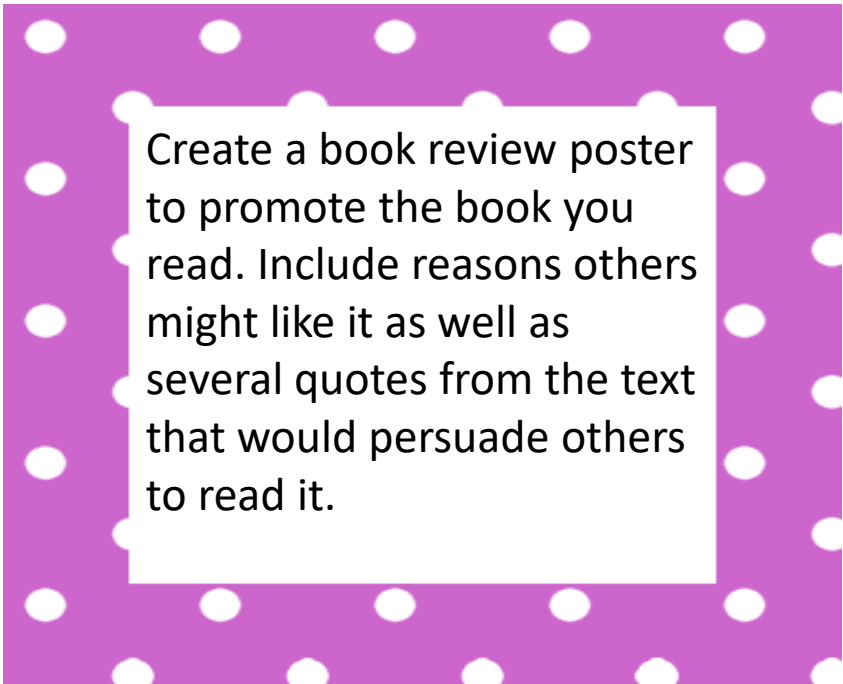
Did anything surprising happen in the story that you were not expecting? Explain why it was surprising to you.



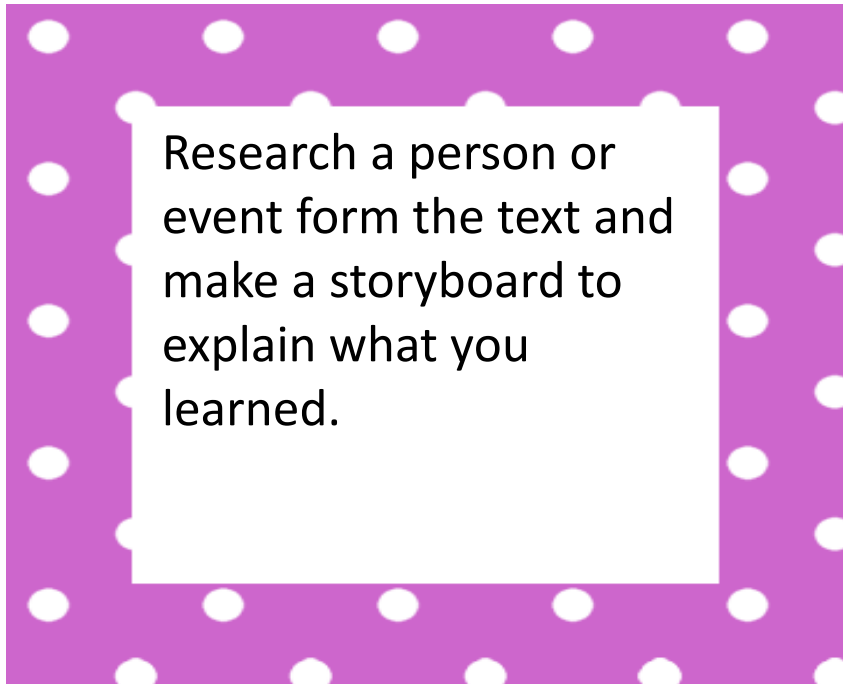
Pick a scene that is described in detail in the text. Draw a detailed picture and then write your own description of what is happening.



Determine a symbol for each chapter of the book and place the symbols in order on a Flow Map. Provide a brief description of why each symbol was chosen.



Create a book review poster to promote the book you read. Include reasons others might like it as well as several quotes from the text that would persuade others to read it.



Research a person or event from the text and make a storyboard to explain what you learned.

# Extended Response to Literature Task Cards



Pretend you are one character in the text. Write a letter to another character utilizing the perspective and point of view of your chosen character. Answer specific questions, clarify actions, etc. Remember to stay in character.

(Using the details from the text, know the character's personality and write as if you were this person.)

*What would this character wonder? What would he want to know? What does he want to say to this other character? What would he celebrate? What would he complain about? What would they share with one another? Is there anything both of these characters experienced that only they would understand?*



*If this text was made into a movie, what would the soundtrack include?*

Select 5-8 songs and create the mixed CD, along with the cover, and liner notes. Within the liner notes, write one to two paragraphs describing and explaining where each song would occur in the movie's plot (reference specific scenes, chapter numbers, and/or page numbers). Also provide evidence of why each song is a good fit for that part of the novel.

Throughout the novel, several characters face physical conflicts and personal struggles. Select one of the main characters and write 2-4 diary entries (minimum of a half page per entry). Write from the perspective and point of view of this single character. Think of these entries as a place for the character to think out loud and work out his emotions in the privacy of a diary.

*What would he be thinking about? What kind of advice might he want or need?*



*thank you*

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[www.hollandpoulsen.com](http://www.hollandpoulsen.com)