

The Treasure of Lemon Brown

by Walter Dean Myers

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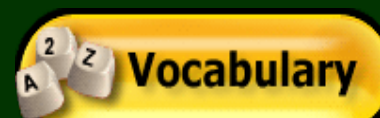
Introducing the Story



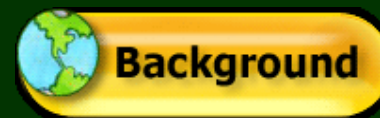
Literary Focus: Conflict



TechFocus



Reading Focus: Summarizing



Writing Focus: Think as a Reader/Writer



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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

by Walter Dean Myers



What things in life are really important?

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Introducing the Story

THE TREASURE OF LEMON BROWN

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Introducing the Story

Greg dreams of playing basketball for the Scorpions, but his dad has other ideas. ▾

Then, a stormy afternoon in an abandoned building in Harlem teaches Greg a lesson.



Will he learn what's really important in life?

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Literary Focus: Conflict

Have you ever argued with a friend or felt guilty about something you did? ▼

Have you ever wanted something very badly but been prevented from getting it? ▼



Then you have experienced **conflict**. Writers create conflicts to “hook” you into a story.

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Literary Focus: Conflict

A character may experience **conflict** during a struggle with another character, ▼



with a force of nature, ▼

or with his or her own feelings and desires.

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Literary Focus: Conflict

Conflicts may be ▾

internal:

firefighter vs. his or her fear

or

external:

firefighter vs. fire



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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Literary Focus: Conflict

The story you're about to read contains several examples of **conflict**. Here are two: ▼

He stood to go upstairs, **thought of the lecture** that probably awaited him if he did anything except shut himself in his room with his math book, **and started walking down the street instead.** [*internal conflict*]

. . .

Pulling his collar up as high as he could, **he checked for traffic and made a dash across the street.** He reached the house just as **another flash of lightning** changed the night to day for an instant, then returned the graffiti-scarred building to the grim shadows. [*external conflict*]

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Literary Focus

TechFocus

As you read “The Treasure of Lemon Brown,” pay attention to how one character describes music called the “blues.”

Make a list of details to research for a short presentation.

Later, you’ll use presentation software to create your presentation.

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Reading Focus: Summarizing

What is summarizing?

To **summarize** a story is to tell it again in a shortened form. ▼

First, you read the story as the author tells it.



Then, *you* tell the story in your own words.

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Reading Focus: Summarizing

When you **summarize**, don't repeat the whole story. Instead, you should ▾



- stop at key points
- recall the main events
- retell the story in your own words
- use words like *first*, *next*, and *finally*
- include title, author, setting, and main characters

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Reading Focus: Summarizing

Be sure to include major conflicts as you summarize. ▾

Greg is failing math.

His father says "no" to basketball.

Greg hears breathing in the darkness.

A thunderstorm strikes.



Listen to this passage. How would you summarize the passage to a friend?

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Reading Focus: Summarizing

Into Action: Use a Somebody Wanted But So chart to record the major conflicts and help you summarize the story. ▼

Into Action: Summarizing				
●	Somebody (character)	Wanted (goal or desire)	But (conflict)	So (resolution)
	Greg	wants to play basketball	but his dad wants him to study	
●				

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Writing Focus: Think as a Reader/Writer

Find It in Your Reading

Walter Dean Myers uses precise details to portray New York City's Harlem. ▼

It was beginning to cool. Gusts of wind made bits of paper dance between the parked cars. There was a flash of lightning, and soon large drops of rain splashed onto his jeans.

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Listen and jot down some of the details that help you imagine this urban neighborhood.

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Vocabulary

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Vocabulary

- 🔊 **impromptu** *adj.*: unplanned. ▼
- 🔊 **tentatively** *adv.*: in an uncertain or hesitant way. ▼
- 🔊 **intently** *adv.*: with close attention. ▼
- 🔊 **probing** *v.* used as *adj.*: searching or investigating. ▼
- 🔊 **ominous** *adj.*: threatening.

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Vocabulary

The word ***impromptu*** is often used to describe unplanned or spur-of-the-moment events. ▼



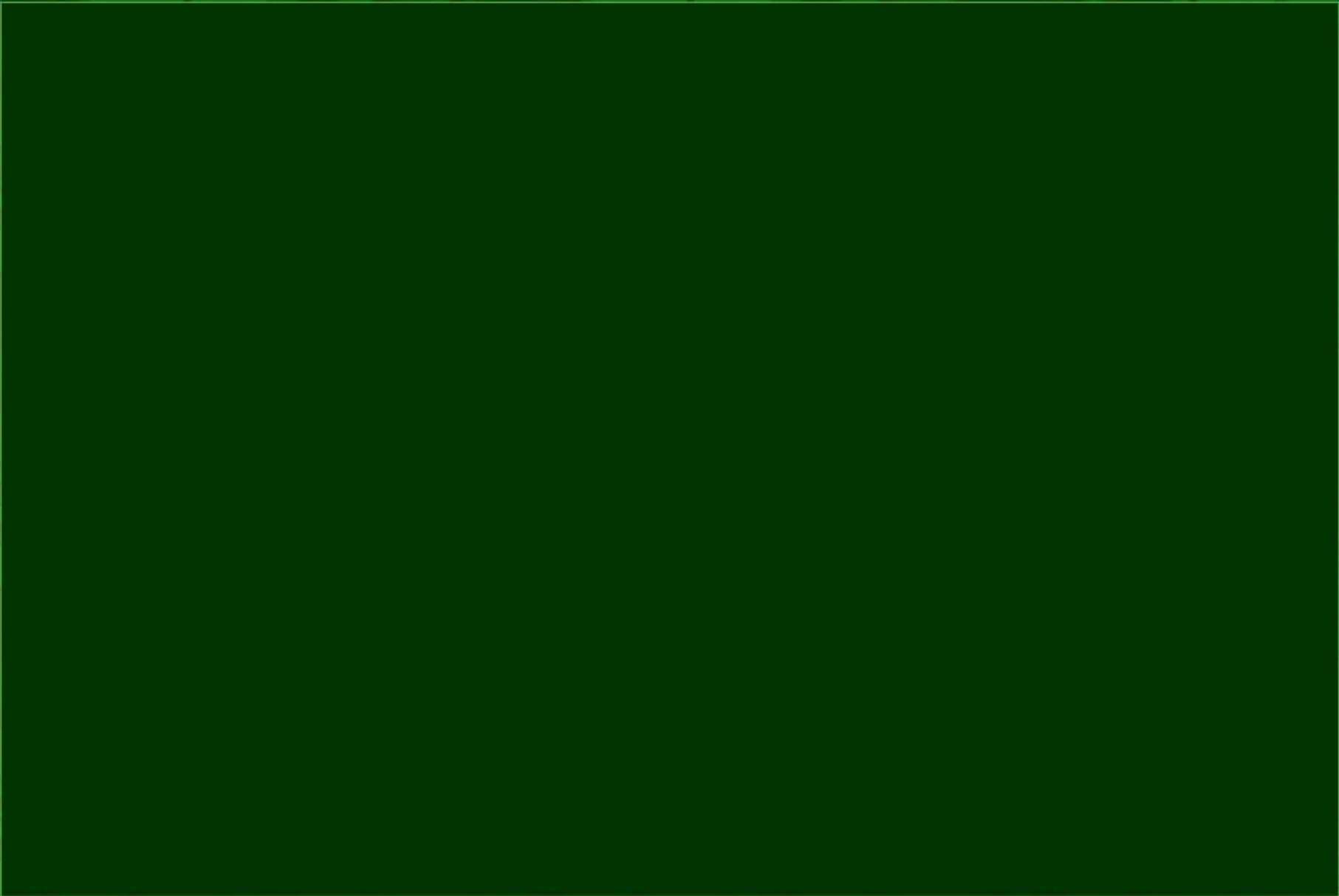
In place of ***impromptu***, you could use words like ***unprepared, unrehearsed, or spontaneous.***

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Vocabulary

Which of these activities looks **impromptu** to you?



A



B



C

Would you pack supplies and outdoor gear for an **impromptu** adventure? Why or why not?



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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Vocabulary

Tentatively is another way to say ▾

uncertainly

hesitantly

cautiously



shyly

sheepishly

timidly

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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Vocabulary

Mrs. Martinez **tentatively** opened the door to the attic because _____ ▼



. . . she was being cautious.

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Vocabulary

Intently is another way to say *carefully*, or *with close attention*. ▾

Valerie looked **intently** at the mural's detail.



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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Vocabulary

Which detective is **intently** studying the clues? ▼



Each detective is.

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Vocabulary

Probing is another term for *looking closely, investigating, or digging deeper.* ▼

Some professions that might include **probing** are

- judges
- scientists
- reporters
- medical examiners



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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Vocabulary

Antonio's **probing** fingers finally found the light switch.

Antonio most likely . . . ▼



- A. was in a dark, unfamiliar room.
- B. knew where the light switch was.
- C. could easily see the light switch. ▼



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Vocabulary

When you think of the word **ominous**, what words come to mind? ▼

Examples:

frightening

menacing

warning

worrying

Word: ▼

ominous

Definition: ▼

adj.:
threatening.

Sentence: ▼

An **ominous**
silence settled
over the empty
warehouse.

Image: ▼



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The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Vocabulary

As Mr. Reyna, the theater teacher, hung costumes backstage, an **ominous** shadow moved into the doorway. ▼

What did Mr. Reyna most likely do next? ▼

- a. He shrugged his shoulders and kept working. ▼
- b.** He slipped safely out the back door. ▼
- c. He asked whoever was there to hand him the prop sword and shield. ▼



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