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**6B- _____**   **Reading: Plot Structure Diagram for _The Lion and the Mouse_: PLAN**

Directions: **USE PENCIL.** To plan your written version of Jerry Pinkney's story _The Lion and the Mouse,_ summarize the plot of the picture book in note form on the diagram below. Then, in Google Classroom, draft your version of the story based on this plot summary. **ALL members need to write this plan.**
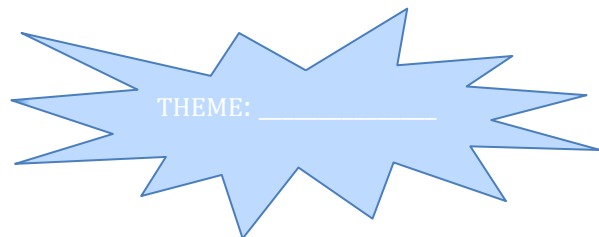
THEME: _____

CLIMAX: Realization, Discovery, Transformation, Evolution, Ah-ha! CLIMAX DELIVERS THEME:

EXPOSITION: Characters, Setting, Situation before conflict:
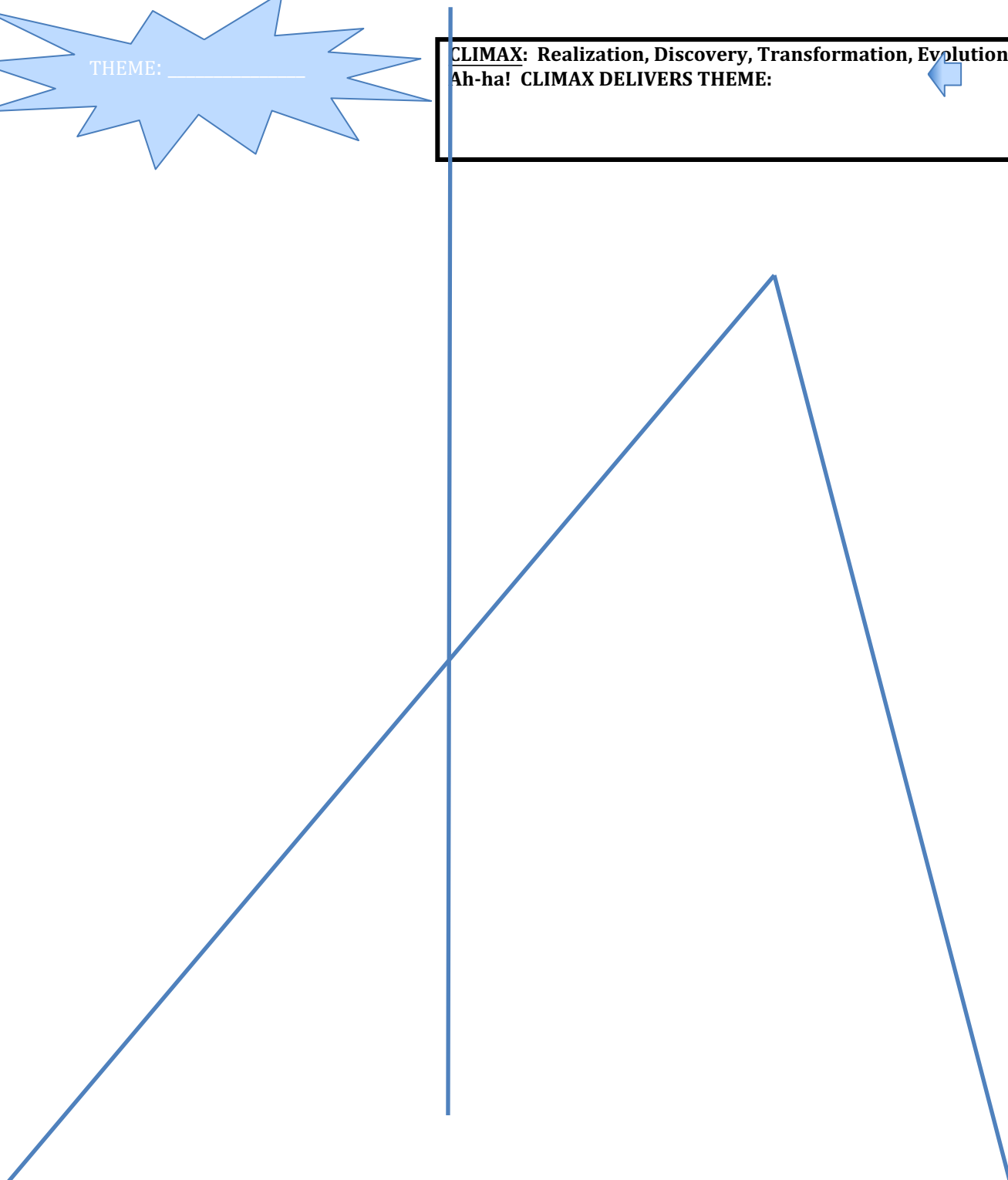
R.A. Event #4:

R.A. Event #2:

R.A. Event #5:

F.A.: Reaction to the CLIMAX; settling of intensity:

R.A. Event #3:

R.A.: Inciting Incident: Start of Conflict...

RESOLUTION: End; closure. New situation after conflict:

1. **IMAGERY:** Using **detailed and descriptive sense imagery**, describe the setting at the start of *The Lion and the Mouse*. Try to **paint pictures with words**, and, if possible, to **use these images to create a mood** that fits the plot and theme of this story. How does the setting look, feel, smell, taste, or sound? What can the characters see, stretching toward the horizon? What catches their eyes? What sounds do the characters hear if they listen closely? What tastes or smells linger in the air, emanate from the grasses, dwell in the characters' memories? How does the sun feel on the characters, on the rocks, the wings of the birds? Feel free to try using **metaphors**, **similes**, **personification**, **onomatopoeia**, or **alliteration** as Kenneth Grahame did in *The Wind in the Willows.* **Try to avoid "listing" the sense imagery** by saying things like, "The mouse could hear..." "The lion could smell..." "The elephants could taste..." Instead, you might "put the sense images in action." For example, "The sediment within the soil of the savannah seemed to have soaked up the sunlight and dried itself until, like the skin of an onion, its skin, the skin of the soil, cracked and split under even the slightest steps of the mouse's prancing paws, paws padding through the pebbled and pockmarked prairieland, pitter-pattering, pitter-pattering along."

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2. **THEME:** **Definition:** In most stories, **the climax delivers a strong expression of the story's theme, or main idea.** Themes are basically just **patterns**; they're **important ideas that repeat themselves** throughout a work of art.

　　　　Finding Theme: **Identify the CLIMAX.** Ask yourself, What universal (widespread) life issue, or concept, presents itself to the characters or to me, the reader, during this climax? What important topic did the characters learn about or express in the climax? What real-world issue was their ah-ha! moment based on? What big idea was their climactic discovery about? The answer is probably the theme. **Once you think you've identified a theme for the climax, check to see if this theme repeats itself through a variety of other scenes in the story.** If so, you've probably pinpointed an important theme!

　　　　Common Themes: In the fictional world of stories, authors tend to explore the themes that are most important to us in the real world outside the narrative. These are the timeless human issues that people have examined for ages. Examples of common themes include **love, trust, death/loss, greed, identity (figuring out who we are), self-esteem, the power of imagination, stereotypes, power, war and peace, friendship, the allure of nature, family life, popularity, growing up, discrimination, racism, prejudice, diversity, competition, bullying, maturity, morality, sacrifice, accepting responsibility**, and on and on…

　　　　Directions: On the space below, name the theme of *The Lion and the Mouse* in a word or short phrase. (See plot diagram on front.) Then, in a single sentence or two, name the author's message for this theme. In other words, name the author's point about the theme. When you write the theme message, use the language of a real-world insight. Avoid clichés, morals, absolutes, obvious ideas, and text-specific observations. Instead, write a theme message that states an original, softened, thoughtful observation that is universal in nature, even if it's not true for everyone.

　　　　　Sample theme topic and theme message:

　　　　　　　Theme Topic:　　　　Growing Up

　　　　　　　Theme Message:　　　Many people learn to grow up when they begin to think about the welfare of others, not just about their own well-being, because this process tends to teach compassion.

THEME TOPIC for *The Lion and the Mouse*:　　_____

THEME MESSAGE for *The Lion and the Mouse*:　　_____

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