

Name: _____
Ms. Kamrass
Unit Pack for Montana 1948, by Larry Watson

Essential Questions:

What is racism and why is it dangerous?
What makes a character interesting?
How do you know when someone has reached adulthood?
Does power corrupt?

Literary terms:

bildungsroman – is literally translated from German as “novel of formation.” It is a novel that focuses on the protagonist’s passage into adulthood; this growth can be mental, spiritual, and physical, but is often marked by a crisis that leads to maturity. Oftentimes, the protagonist discovers his, or her, role in the world.

flashback – when there is a break in the chronological order of a narrative to explain an event from an earlier point in time

foreshadowing- material introduced to prepare the reader or audience for future events, actions, or revelations

irony- *its simplest definition: when the opposite of the expected happens.* Used in literature to highlight important points and themes, not to deceive

first and third person point of view

first person narration- the speaker refers to him/herself as “I”

third person limited- narrator is not in the narrative, refers to other characters as “he,” “she,” “they” etc. this narrator does not explain much more about the narrative or characters

third person omniscient- same as third person limited, except that the narrator knows everything that needs to be known including the characters’ feelings, motives, events, thoughts, etc.

narrative- a story told within any genre (song, poem, short story, novel, memoir, drama etc.) The story contained within the song, poem, etc. is referred to as its “narrative.” “Narrative” is a fancy word for “story.”

theme – the meaning of a narrative that the **text** seems to be making about a subject. Do not confuse “theme” with “moral” or “message” – these imply that an author’s work exists solely to teach us a lesson.

REVIEW: symbol, antagonist, protagonist, conflict, setting, characterization (direct and indirect) and plot structure

Vocabulary: These words will be discovered and researched by you. Look for directions on the next page.

Research:

Sioux Indian Research Project – we will spend time in the library and will go over this process step by step.

*Three essential questions for this project: What is plagiarism and how do you avoid it? Why is research an important part of learning? Why is the history of the Sioux tragic?

Assessments:

homework, various writing including research paper, essay, and creative; pop quizzes, test, and literary essay

Additional reading: an excerpt from Shelley’s Ode to the West Wind

Hayden Family Tree

(We'll complete in class)

Other main characters:

Directions:

1. For the questions – answer in complete sentences. Be sure to list specific information (CDs) and full explanation and analysis (CM). When you see a “Q” next to a question, find a quote and write it word-for-word with quotation marks and the page number in parentheses after.
2. For the vocabulary – *You will encounter other words that you don’t know. When you find one, write it on the list given at the end of this packet. Also give its page number, definition, and its whole sentence from the book.*

Stop reading at the flower symbol for many of these passages.

Prologue

After reading the Prologue, describe some literary terms that can be used to analyze it (use the first page of this packet).

Pages 11-38***Special Assignment: Setting***

When a novel is entitled for its setting – such as it is in Montana 1948 – it’s a sign that the time and place are of major importance to the narrative (story). *Below, write some adjectives that Larry Watson uses to describe this part of Montana, as well as some others that he uses to describe the land contained in the local Indian reservation.*

1. a. Words or phrases used to describe the topography (landscape) in Bentrock and Mercer County (general):	1. b. How might this topography affect the people who live there?
2. a. Words or phrases used to describe the nearby Indian reservation (the land, what’s on it, etc.):	2. b. How might these descriptions affect the people who live there?

3. What is Marie’s job in the Hayden house? What did David think it was?

Q 4. What is the reason that Wes, David's father, gives for Marie's refusal to see a doctor?

5. a. What is Wesley's profession (job)? b. He has been trained for another profession – name it.

6. Describe two CDs that illustrate that Wesley is not enthusiastic about his profession.

7. Why might he not like his job? Again, use a CD.

8. Give one piece of information that shows that many people in Bentrack are racist.

9. *Predict:* We have little, if any detail, as to why Marie doesn't want to see a doctor. Why do you think she acts this way?

Pages 38-54

10. What does David do when his parents ask him to leave so that they can speak alone?

Q 11. List a quotation that proves that Uncle Frank is racist, and explain it in your own words.

12. Reflect and predict: Uncle Frank may, or may not, be guilty of some horrible crimes. What do you believe and why? (Hint: think about what other characters say, and what at least one doesn't say).

Pages 57-82

13. a. Describe Grandpa Hayden's house using words from the text, then describe again in your own words. b. What does the house tell you about the owner?

14. What was David supposed to shoot? What did he shoot?

Q15. What does David learn after he kills the animal?

16. On pages 63-64, David, as an older narrator, thinks, "...I wanted to be included, to know more than my eavesdropping brought me. I suppose I wanted adult status, to have my parents discuss the case in front of me, ..." Have you ever felt the same? Explain.

Pages 82- 102

Q17. What statement by Wes proves that Uncle Frank is guilty?

18. What happens to Marie?

19. a. David decides to give his parents some important information about Uncle Frank, what is it? b. Would you have done the same? Explain.

Pages 105-130

20. How did Grandpa react to Frank's arrest? Why does he think Wesley did it?

21. Why did David cry?

Pages 130-175

22. How has Wes changed from the beginning of the novel? Give two specific details.

23. What do you think Wes means when he yells, "...‘Don’t ever blame Montana!’?"

Student vocabulary

Directions: Make a list of other words, page numbers and definitions that you find as you read. Also write in the sentence in which they appear and write a sentence of your own. You need to find at least ten.

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Name: _____

Block: _____

- What makes a person interesting?

- What makes a character interesting?

Directions: Complete the tasks given in each space; each square is worth 25 points.

1. What is **characterization** and which characters are the most rounded in Montana 1948?

4. Write about this task on a separate sheet of paper and attach to this sheet (minimum of 12 sentences). Pretend that you want to write a character based on yourself. Write about what makes you an interesting person. Then write a summary about why these traits would also make an interesting character. *If you would rather write the creative piece – instead of explaining – you may do that.*

2. Take a look at the main characters in Mont. '48: which ones were best characterized by Larry Watson? Explain why they are such rounded characters *specific* examples from the text of the novel.

3. Reread some key passages that reveal Grandpa's character, then take the *detail* that Watson uses and draw a picture of Grandpa Hayden. You **must** also include some of his dialogue and give the page number(s).