

WELCOME, FAVS!



Let's start with a fun
brain warm up while I
take attendance!

SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Can you find five?



Students, drag the icons!



ANSWERS

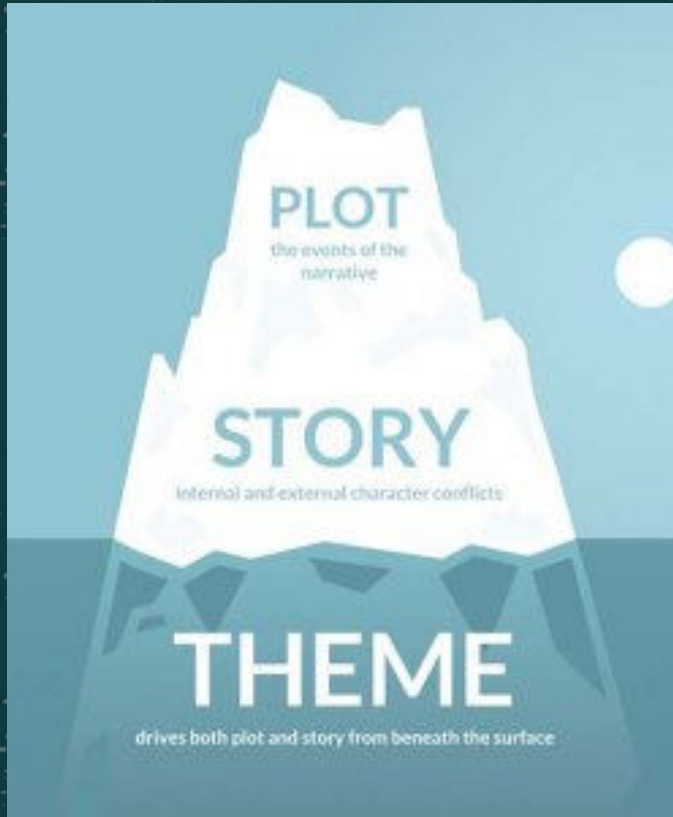


This week it is all about..





THEME



Understanding theme has to start with understanding the plot and the central conflict, but the reader has to analyze those story events to determine how those situations are relevant in real life.



Students, write your response!



These are not themes,
these are **TOPICS**.

- Love
- Family
- Good vs
- Friendship
- Trust
- Courage
- Survival
- Identity
- Death
- Oppression
- Change
- Growing Up
- Acceptance
- Guilt
- Seeking Truth

But, a topic can TURN
ITNO a theme!

Themes
are not
generic
topics.



Students, write your response!

Themes are statements about those topics that the author

happiness

fear

THEME

What's the author trying to teach me?

family

prejudice



Students, write your response!

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Theme should...

be stated as a
complete sentence

conveys the
author's point
about the topic.

Don't forget..

Themes are universal and timeless, meaning they apply to everyone in the world, throughout history.



Topic VS. Theme



TOPIC

- subject about which the author is writing
- expressed in a word or short phrase
- texts include more than one topic

Examples:

Good and Evil

Friendship

Racism

Taking risks

THEME

- central idea or message *about* the topic
- may be directly or indirectly stated
- ALWAYS expressed in a sentence
(a complete thought *about* the topic)

Examples:

Good often triumphs over evil.

Friends can make life immeasurably better.

Racism is a destructive power in society.

Taking risks can lead to positive outcomes.

NOW LET'S BREAK A THEME INTO PARTS:

A theme statement must include a **topic** and the **author's message** about that topic.

Honesty is always the most important thing.



Topic



**Author's
message**



Students, draw anywhere on this slide!

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Let's watch!



SUMMARY + MAIN IDEA

A little girl is excited to visit her mother, who is battling cancer and has lost her hair. The little girl tries to do it herself, but fails. Dad gives it a try, but seems to give up and resort to just putting a hat on her head. After watching the video with words of encouragement from a video the mother made, they both work together and push through. They are successful.

WHAT IS THE LESSON WE CAN
ALL LEARN FROM WATCHING
THIS SHORT FILM?

Judging by the summary and main idea,
the film seems to be stating that working
together with love pays off.

Remember..

THEME = TOPIC + AUTHOR'S MESSAGE about the topic

NOT JUST A TOPIC

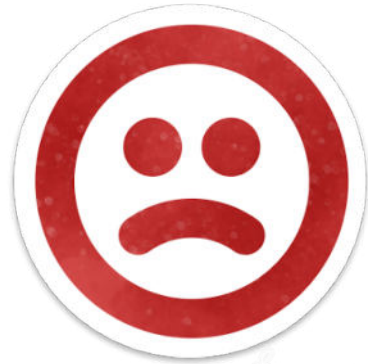
Topic: Overcoming an obstacle

Message: love & working together will lead to success

In her video, the mom actually states one of the main
themes from this film:

"The road ahead may be rough, but you can make the journey
the most beautiful one."

How do you feel about your progress so far?



 Pear Deck



Students, draw anywhere on this slide!

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BRAIN BREAK
TIME!

YAS



WOULD YOU RATHER...
Have a pet dinosaur



Have pet dragon



Students choose an option

WOULD YOU RATHER...
Have 5 brothers



Have 5 sisters



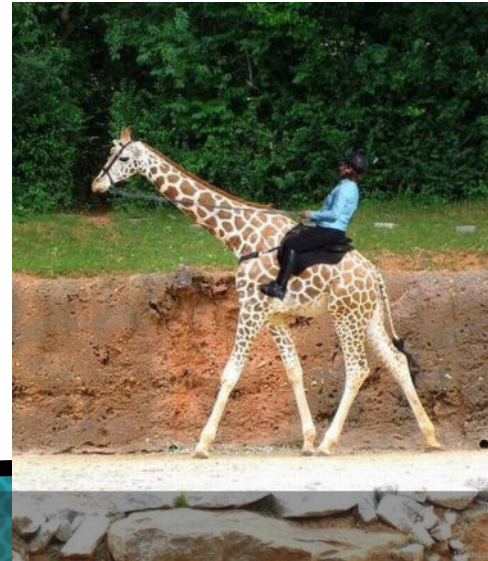
Students choose an option

WOULD YOU RATHER...

your only mode of
transportation be a donkey



your only mode of
transportation be a giraffe



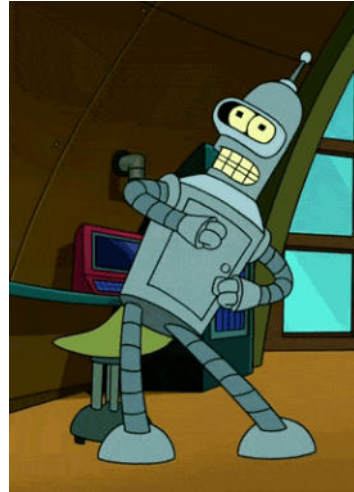
Students choose an option

WOULD YOU RATHER...

Have a magic carpet

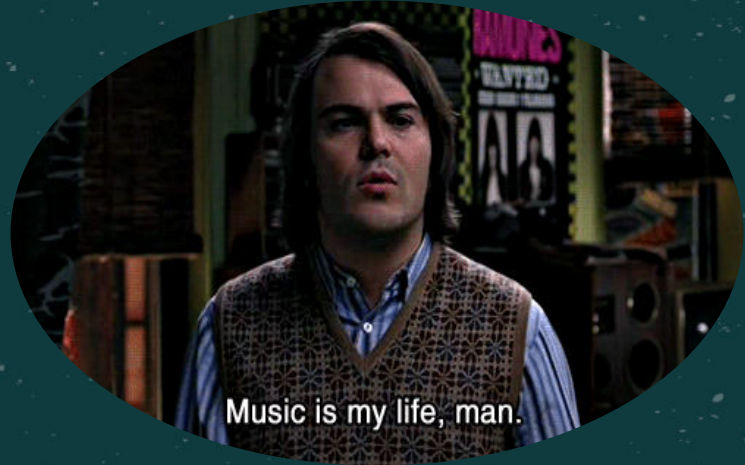


Have a personal robot



Students choose an option

NOW THAT WE KNOW
WHAT THEME IS,
LET'S PRACTICE WRITING
THEME STATEMENTS USING
PICTURES!



TOPIC:

THEME:



TOPIC:

THEME:

Students, write your response!



YOUR TURN!

TOPIC:
THEME:



TOPIC:
THEME:



Students, write your response!



"FUNERAL"

RALPH FLETCHER

Funeral

By Ralph Fletcher

On our last morning in Marshfield the doorbell rang at nine o'clock. When I opened it I saw Andy, Steve, and Larry standing together. I was surprised to see them.

"C'mon, we're taking you to the woods," Larry said.

Dad came downstairs carrying two suitcases.

"Can I go into the woods?" I asked Dad.

He shook his head. "We're leaving in less than an hour."

"Please, Dad," I pleaded. "Just one last time?"

"All right, but we're leaving at ten o'clock sharp," he said. "When you hear me beep the horn, you come right away, okay?"

"Okay," I promised, and followed my friends outside. They were walking in a funny way, the way you do when you're hiding a secret.

"What's going on?" I asked.

"We're having a funeral," Andy replied with a solemn face.

“For who?”

“You,” Steve explained.

“A funeral!” I laughed. “Hey, I’m moving. I’m not dead!”

“You’ll be dead to us,” Larry pointed out.

We entered Ale’s Woods on a path I’d run down thousands of times. I knew every rock and mushroom and pine tree by heart. In the middle of the woods my friends stopped.

“There!” Steve said, pointing to a small indentation in the forest floor. “Lie down, dead man!”

I lay down. The ground was thick with pine needles, and soft. My friends picked up big clumps of pine needles and started sprinkling them over my body.

“Hey!” I protested.

“Be quiet,” Larry ordered. “You’re dead, remember? Keep your eyes closed.”

“Just don’t get it on my face,” I muttered. They kept sprinkling the pine needles on me until my limbs and body were covered, and I could feel them, like a lightweight blanket.

“Should auld acquaintance be forgot—,” Steve sang.

“You don’t sing that at a funeral,” Larry interrupted. “You sing that on New Year’s Eve.”

Andy loudly cleared his throat. “Hear ye, hear ye, hear ye,” he announced.

“We have gathered here to lay to rest the soul of our departed friend, Ralph Fletcher. Would anyone like to speak?”

“I would,” Steve said. “Ralph Fletcher was a good friend. Last year I had to do summer school. He came by every day to walk me home.”

“He was a good friend,” Larry agreed. “About a month ago, John Berkowitz tried to beat me up, and Ralph told John, ‘You’ll have to beat me up first.’ So, John Berkowitz punched him instead. He was a brave friend. Stupid, but brave!”

Everyone laughed, including me.

“He was a good friend,” Andy began, then stopped. I lay on the pine needles, eyes shut, smelling the mix of the piney smell and the good, rotting earth underneath. I waited for Andy to continue, but he didn’t say anything. Then he whispered:

“He was the brother I never had.”

“He was a member of the Four Stooges,” Larry said in a husky whisper.

Then they all said together:

“We’ll never forget him.”

My eyes started to water. I tilted my head so they wouldn't notice, and stayed quiet. Nobody spoke. I thought of all the things I'd done with these guys. Staying up late listening to the radio while the DJ counted down the top ten. Blowing off M-80s in Mr. Oxner's cornfield. Eating raw sweet corn. Going to the Marshfield Fair every summer. Arguing about which girl in our class was cuter— Lisa Kennedy, Pam Coyne, or Beth Byers. Fishing for crappies and sunfish. Trading baseball cards, card tricks, dirty jokes, scars, stories, snacks, swears. For a long moment it stayed quiet. Finally I opened my eyes. They were gone. Usually I hated it when my friends ditched me, but this time it felt different. In a strange way I was glad they were gone. For a while I just laid there, looking up at the trees. I heard a car horn beeping.

“Ralph!” It was Jimmy, calling. “C'mon, we gotta go!”

“Coming!” I yelled back. I sat up and brushed off the pine needles. Bits of light danced in the deep forest shadows around me. I knew I'd never forget that place. Then I stood up and stepped into my new life, whatever that might be.

Theme Scheme Questions

Part 1: The story

1. Who is the main character?

2. What is the main character's conflict or problem?

3. What did the main character do about the conflict?

4. And then what happened?



Students, draw anywhere on this slide!

Part 2: The theme

5. Was what happened good or bad?

6. Why was it good or bad?

7. The main character learned that he/she should...

8. We should...



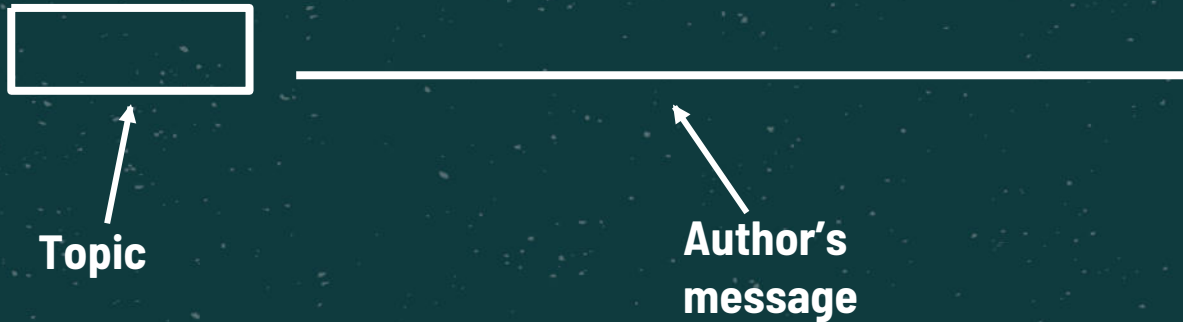
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NOW WRITE YOUR THEME STATEMENT:

*** A theme statement must include a **topic** and the **author's message** about that topic ***

LOCATE THE TOPIC AND AUTHOR'S MESSAGE:

Topic + Author's Message = THEME



Students, draw anywhere on this slide!

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LISTEN & FIND THE THEME



Students, write your response!

KEHLANI "THANK YOU"

I never said that I had it all figured it out
I never said, I never said that I live my days without
doubt
I swear all I've ever done is be honest and stay modest

So this is a, sincere, unscripted
Unwritten for all that you've given
Forgiving, I'm driven
I wanna be better than I was better than I am
So I say

All I'm trying to say is I thank you
I thank you
All I'm trying to say is I thank you
I thank you
All I'm trying to say is I thank you

I never said that I was done with my growth
I never said, I never said that I was done doing the
most
And I swear all I've ever done was stay honest and
keep my promise

So here goes my real life, unscripted
Unwritten for all that you've given
Forgiving, I'm driven
I wanna be better than I was, greater than I am
So I say

All I gotta say is I thank you
Thank you
All I gotta say is I thank you

Thank you for watching me walk across the stage
For walking me through my heartbreaks
Thanks for the love every step of the way
With no support this wouldn't be as great
Thank you for making me stronger than most
For taking it beyond my coast
Thank you for raising a glass when I toast

WRITE YOUR THEME STATEMENT:



Topic

Author's message

Evidence from the lyrics that support the theme:



Students, draw anywhere on this slide!