

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

## THE READER

You are about to read a novel. That means that you are about to become the reader. What kind of reader are you?

Work with a partner. Talk about the things you seem to like or dislike in the things you read. Tell your answers aloud to your partner. Listen to your partner's answers, too.

### Characterization

(the people and/or creatures in the story)

- ◆ What types of characters do you like to read about? Why?
- ◆ What types of characters do you **not** like to read about? Why?

### Plot

(the things that happen in the story)

- ◆ What types of events do you like to read about? Why?
- ◆ What types of events do you **not** like to read about? Why?

On the lines below, summarize your partner's responses. In just a few sentences, tell what kind of characters and events your partner likes to read about. Also tell what types he/she does not usually like to read about.

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Work together again to answer this one final question: *Is the reader an important part of any novel? Why or why not?* Decide on an answer and write it on the lines below.

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## WHERE IT BEGINS AND ENDS

The setting in which an author chooses to begin a novel can have significance. It can give us clues to the events and lives of the characters before the novel begins. Take a closer look at where the novel begins, where it ends, and the significance of these two locations. (**Note:** If the beginning and ending settings are the same, this can also be important.)

1. Describe the setting in which the novel begins. Use the novel's title in your answer.

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2. What does this setting tell us about the main character's life before the novel begins?

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3. Describe the setting in which the novel ends. \_\_\_\_\_

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4. How do the events in the novel get the main character from the opening setting to the ending setting?

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5. How does the ending setting show a change (or lack of change) in the character's life?

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6. What do you think the ending setting tells us about the near future for the main character? Give reasons for your answer.

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## OVERCOMING OBSTACLES

Many books in the children's literature genre contain the theme of overcoming obstacles. The main character must face a difficult situation, and he or she must find ways to overcome it.

Think of two obstacles or struggles that the main character must face. Write them in the boxes. In the spaces over the boxes, explain how the character overcame each obstacle.

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Name of Novel: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Character: \_\_\_\_\_

\* \* \* \* \*

**How did  
this character  
overcome this  
obstacle?**

**Obstacle #1**

**How did  
this character  
overcome this  
obstacle?**

**Obstacle #2**