

Play: *Bandslam* • Issue: April 27, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Character Web

Directions: It's easier to understand and interpret a story if you "know" the characters. Use this graphic organizer to analyze the character Will Burton in the play *Bandslam*.

What does Will SAY? Choose a line from the text that reveals something about his character.

What do others say about Will?

WILL
BURTON

How does Will LOOK? List examples of descriptive details.

What does Will DO? List specific actions and choices.

Make an inference about Will. Would he be a good friend? Is he well-liked? Would the plot change without Will? In what ways?

Section: Your World • April 27, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Fact Versus Opinion

EXAMPLE:**Fact:** Millions of families have pet dogs.**Opinion:** Dogs make the best pets.

Directions: Read the following sentences related to the articles in this issue's "Your World" section. Then write **F** next to the sentences that are facts and **O** next to the sentences that are opinions.

- _____ 1. Houses made of fruit are cool.
- _____ 2. Sculptors used almost 160 tons of oranges and lemons to build a castle.
- _____ 3. Building a car out of lemons is a waste of fruit.
- _____ 4. Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* is a comedy.
- _____ 5. Anne Hathaway is a talented actress.
- _____ 6. Anne Hathaway's breakthrough role was in *The Princess Diaries*.
- _____ 7. New York City should have giant comic murals like Brussels does.
- _____ 8. Geoffrey Stanford is really smart.

YOUR TURN

Facts can be used to support opinions. For example, "Sarah is generous" is an opinion. "Sarah gave half of her sandwich to Adam" is a fact that supports the opinion, because it shows *how* Sarah is generous.

1. Write a supporting fact for the opinion below.**Opinion:** Geoffrey Stanford is the most observant high-school student in the U.S.**Fact:** _____
_____**2. Use the fact below to support an opinion.****Fact:** Anne Hathaway has starred in several movies.**Opinion:** _____

Issue: April 27, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Master Your Modifiers

A modifier is a word or phrase that adds information to another part of a sentence. In most cases, a modifier should be placed next to the word or phrase it modifies. A misplaced modifier describes the wrong word and changes the meaning of the sentence.

EXAMPLE:

Wrong: *Matt walked the dog in a pair of sneakers.*

Explanation: This sentence is incorrect because it seems like the dog wore the sneakers.

Right: *Matt wore a pair of sneakers to walk the dog.*

Directions: Circle the misplaced modifiers, and rewrite each sentence correctly in the space provided. You may reorder the words in the sentence or choose different words.

1. Geoffrey found a mistake on a writing test, who usually reads instructions carefully.

2. Sculptors in France built a car, a castle, and a windmill with hard work and determination.

3. A seventh-grader became the writer to win the youngest professional journalism award.

4. Bandslam is a big musical competition in which teens compete to get a record deal in Lodi, New Jersey.

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Understanding Motive

In the play *Bandslam*, several characters misrepresent the truth. With this activity, you will explore what the characters lie about, why they lie, and how the truth is uncovered.

Directions: Read *Bandslam*, and fill in the chart.

Character	The lie	Why did this character lie?	How did the truth come out?
Will			
Sam			
Charlotte			

WRITE NOW!

Have you ever misrepresented the truth? Why? Write a paragraph explaining what you lied about, why you lied, and what happened as a result.

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Reading and Thinking

Writing about the basic elements of a story can help you remember and understand it. With this organizer, you will explore setting and plot of the play *Bandslam*.

Bandslam

SETTING

1. The location is _____

2. The time period is _____

3. The atmosphere, or feeling, that the setting creates is _____

4. Why is setting important to the play? _____

PLOT

Use these prompts to retell the main events of the story.

1. Beginning: _____

2. Middle: _____

3. End: _____

4. The main conflict of this story is _____

5. The climax is _____

6. The main conflict is resolved when _____

Article: "What's in a Name?" • Issue: April 27, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

What's in a Name? Quiz

Directions: Read the article "What's in a Name?", and answer each of the following questions.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1. Which famous actress has the same name as William Shakespeare's wife?
 (A) Angelina Jolie
 (B) Natalie Portman
 (C) Anne Hathaway
 (D) Kate Hudson</p> | <p>6. Which word is the best synonym for disguise in the following sentence: <i>The name mix-up fits the spirit of Twelfth Night, in which disguise and surprise are the themes that figure prominently.</i>
 (A) style
 (B) concealment
 (C) disappearance
 (D) likeness</p> | <p>9. After all of the confusion is sorted out, who do you think ends up together in <i>Twelfth Night</i>? Why?

 _____</p> |
| <p>2. What famous author did Anne Hathaway portray in 2007?
 (A) Charlotte Brontë
 (B) Emily Dickinson
 (C) Virginia Woolf
 (D) Jane Austen</p> | <p>7. When did the play <i>Twelfth Night</i> premiere?
 (A) 1902
 (B) 1602
 (C) 1862
 (D) 1992</p> | |
| <p>3. Hathaway will star in which Shakespearean play this summer?
 (A) <i>Hamlet</i>
 (B) <i>Romeo and Juliet</i>
 (C) <i>Twelfth Night</i>
 (D) <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i></p> | <p>8. Which of the following events happened first?
 (A) Anne Hathaway appeared in <i>Twelfth Night</i>.
 (B) Anne Hathaway appeared in <i>The Devil Wears Prada</i>.
 (C) William Shakespeare wrote <i>Twelfth Night</i>.
 (D) The actress Anne Hathaway was born.</p> | |
| <p>4. What kind of play is <i>Twelfth Night</i>?
 (A) a tragedy
 (B) a drama
 (C) a comedy
 (D) all of the above</p> | | |
| <p>5. Who does Viola disguise herself as in <i>Twelfth Night</i>?
 (A) an old witch
 (B) a man
 (C) a duke
 (D) a princess</p> | | |
| | | <p>10. In what kind of charity work is Anne Hathaway involved?

 _____</p> |

Article: "Poetry Is All Around You" • Issue: April 27, 2009

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Poetry Is All Around You Quiz

Directions: Read the article "Poetry Is All Around You," and answer each of the following questions.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1. In which of the following places can you find poetry?
 (A) libraries
 (B) sidewalks
 (C) benches
 (D) all of the above</p> | <p>(B) to prevent graffiti
 (C) to look good
 (D) all of the above</p> | <p>9. What is the value of putting poetry in public places?

 _____</p> |
| <p>2. Which city has implemented the Sidewalk Poetry Project?
 (A) New York City
 (B) Boston
 (C) St. Paul
 (D) San Francisco</p> | <p>6. Which of the following statements is an OPINION?
 (A) Reading poetry is a great way for travelers to pass the time.
 (B) Artist Marcus Young repairs St. Paul's sidewalks and inscribes poetry in wet cement.
 (C) Organizers hope the mobile poems brighten travelers' trips.
 (D) Facilities on California's Angel Island are still standing due to poetry.</p> | |
| <p>3. Where does Edna St. Vincent Millay's poetry appear?
 (A) Austerlitz, New York
 (B) in the woods near Millay's home
 (C) on benches along the American Discovery Trail
 (D) both a and b</p> | <p>7. Which of the following is an antonym for extemporize?
 (A) improvise
 (B) prepare
 (C) play
 (D) prevent</p> | <p>10. Imagine that you are writing a feature story about Zach Johnson. Write five questions you'd like to ask him in an interview.

 _____</p> |
| <p>4. How do you think 10-year-old Ryan Ross felt when he found out his poem would be carved into a sidewalk?
 (A) ecstatic
 (B) indifferent
 (C) nonplussed
 (D) all of the above</p> | <p>8. Which of the following alternate titles best summarizes this article?
 (A) "Poetry in the Streets"
 (B) "Riding Along With Poems"
 (C) "Poems: Here, There, and Almost Everywhere!"
 (D) "Past Poems Save Landmark"</p> | |
| <p>5. Why do you think people work to put poetry in public places?
 (A) to inspire</p> | | |

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Article: "Poetry Is All Around You" • Issue: April 27, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Liberty Poem

Directions: Each line in "The New Colossus" by Emma Lazarus creates an image. Thinking about each line can help you figure out the poem's meaning. In this activity, you will write about what the images in this poem mean to you.

The New Colossus

Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
 With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
 Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
 A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
 Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
 Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
 Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
 The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
 "Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
 With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
 Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
 The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
 Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
 I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"

—Emma Lazarus, 1883

What Emma Lazarus Wrote	The Image I See	What This Means to Me
Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame, With conquering limbs astride from land to land;		
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name Mother of Exiles.		
From her beacon-hand Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.		
"Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she With silent lips.		
Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"		

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My Town Poem

Directions: After you read the article "Poetry Is All Around You," think of a way to bring poetry into your community. Next, write a poem that would welcome visitors to your town. What would you want them to know about where you live? What would you want to say to them? Follow the steps below to write your poem.

I. Describe how or where your poem would appear.

II. What do you want visitors to know about your town?

III. Write your poem.

BONUS! On a separate piece of paper, draw whatever type of medium (billboard, sidewalk, monument, etc.) on which you want your poem to appear. Be sure to write your poem in the design.

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Lyrical Lesson

The teens in the play *Bandslam* write their own music. Songwriting is a lot like writing a poem. For this activity, you will write lyrics to your own song. Follow the steps below to create your song.

Step 1: Pick a topic: _____

Step 2: Pick the number of beats per line: _____

Step 3: Write the first verse, which will serve as an introduction to your song: _____

Step 4: Write a repeating chorus: _____

Step 5: Write two more verses: _____

Step 6: On a separate piece of paper, write your song in order: verse 1, verse 2, chorus, verse 3, repeat the chorus.