

Article: "Jane & Austin's Literary Laughs" • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Jane & Austin's Literary Laughs

Directions: Write your own episode of *Scope's* comic about Jane & Austin. Then send it to us for a chance to get it published: Jane & Austin, Scholastic Scope, 557 Broadway, New York, NY, 10012.

My name: _____ My teacher: _____

My school: _____ My grade: _____

Parent or teacher signature: _____

Jane & Austin's
Literary Laughs

Title: _____

COMIC STRIP

Article: "Scope's Road Map to Great Writing" • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Writing Rubric

Directions: A rubric is a tool to measure and evaluate your own work. Apply this rubric to your fiction, nonfiction, personal essays, book reviews, thesis papers, and any other piece of writing.

1. IDEA

My main idea is: _____

2. ORGANIZATION

I organized my writing this way: _____

I chose this way to organize because: _____

3. SENTENCES

Do I begin each sentence with a different word? _____

Do my sentences vary in structure? _____

Do my sentences vary in length? _____

4. VOICE

The voice I use is (at least two adjectives): _____

For example: _____

5. WORD CHOICE

Do I use the correct words to say what I mean? _____

6. EDIT

Did I spell-check? _____

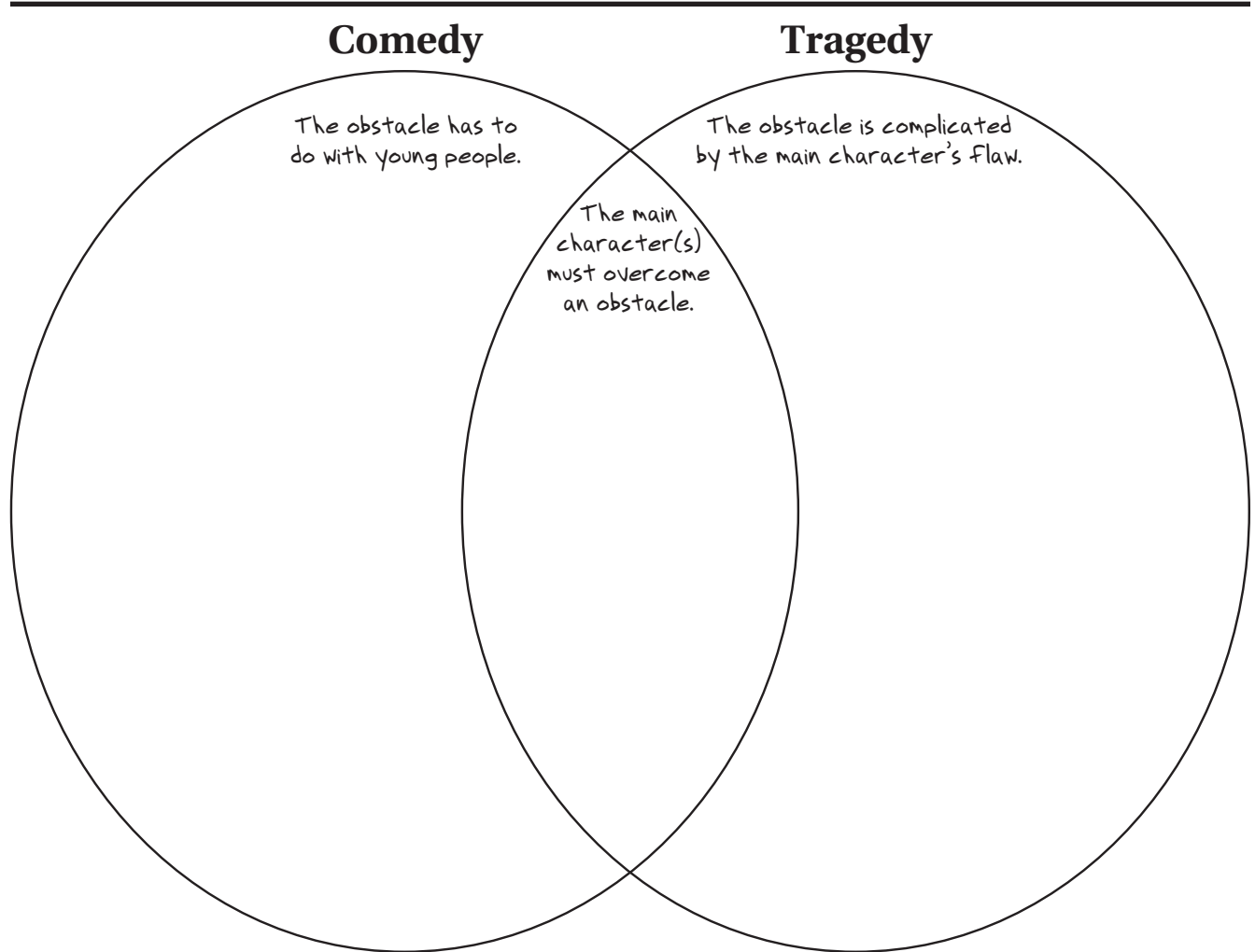
Did I proofread for proper punctuation and grammar? _____

Play: *Romeo and Juliet* • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Comedy Versus Tragedy Venn Diagram

Directions: In “Comedy Versus Tragedy” on page 13, you read about the genres of comedy and tragedy in Shakespeare’s plays. Complete the Venn diagram below to help you better understand the similarities and differences in these two kinds of drama. Write the similarities in the overlapping section of the circles, and write the differences in the non-overlapping sections. We’ve done an example for you.



YOUR TURN

Now that you’ve examined comedy and tragedy, write an essay on a separate sheet of paper comparing the tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet* with an amusing or comical love story. You may choose another Shakespeare play you have read, or a modern book or movie that you like.

Article: "Connection Disconnect" • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Forming an Opinion Graphic Organizer

You've probably read and heard a lot about teens and the Internet. Is going online good for you? Is it bad? What do you think? Read "Connection Disconnect" on page 20, then use the graphic organizer below to help you form your own opinion about whether socializing online makes you less or more social in real life.

Directions: Based on the article "Connection Disconnect," list arguments for and against the statements below. Then, form your own opinion on each statement and explain your reasoning in the last column.

Statement	Arguments For	Arguments Against	My Opinion and Why
Social network sites allow teens to connect to friends, celebrities, and world news.			
Teens spend many hours online.			
Young people go online to play video games, write, and create art.			

Article: "King of Comedy" • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

King of Comedy Quiz

Directions: Read the article "King of Comedy" on page 14, and answer each of the following questions.

1. Which word best describes Adam Sandler's personality in real life?
 - (A) sullen
 - (B) high-spirited
 - (C) sluggish
 - (D) detailed
2. How is Sandler different from many other comic actors?
 - (A) He incorporates songs into his comedy.
 - (B) He refuses to appear on *Saturday Night Live*.
 - (C) He is known for slacking off on the set.
 - (D) He writes a lot of his own movies.
3. Which of the following did Sandler do first?
 - (A) play a military commando in *You Don't Mess With the Zohan*
 - (B) write the script for *Big Daddy*
 - (C) work with ex-quarterback Dan Fouts
 - (D) start writing for *Saturday Night Live*
4. In *You Don't Mess With the Zohan*, characters who are at war with each other in the Middle East all get along in New York. This situation is an example of ...
 - (A) sarcasm
 - (B) hyperbole
 - (C) irony
 - (D) pun
5. Who came up with the idea that Sandler should be a comedian?
 - (A) his mother
 - (B) his best friend
 - (C) his brother
 - (D) his neighbor
6. In *Bedtime Stories*, Sandler ends up in funny situations that are similar to fairy tales. What kind of literary device is this?
 - (A) parody
 - (B) irony
 - (C) sarcasm
 - (D) hyperbole
7. How does Sandler want his audience to feel when he performs?
 - (A) insulted
 - (B) happy
 - (C) surprised
 - (D) superior
8. Which of the following is an example of a pun?
 - (A) When Sandler heard the silly idea, he exclaimed, "That's brilliant!"
 - (B) Why did Sandler wear sneakers in the diving competition? He wanted to be a shoo-in.
 - (C) Adam Sandler isn't happy unless a billion people are laughing.
 - (D) Madam, I'm Adam.
9. What influences help shape Adam Sandler's comedy?

10. How has Sandler changed since he first started out in comedy?

USES: COPY MACHINE, OPAQUE PROJECTOR, OR TRANSPARENT MASTER FOR OVERHEAD PROJECTOR. SCHOLASTIC INC GRANTS SUBSCRIBERS OF SCHOLASTIC SCOPE PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS PAGE FOR USE IN THEIR CLASSROOMS. COPYRIGHT © 2009 BY SCHOLASTIC INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Section: Your World • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Your World Quiz

Directions: Read the Your World section on pages 3-5, and answer the following questions.

1. What materials did sculptors use to make the 196-foot replica of Gulliver from *Gulliver's Travels*?

- (A) steel and clay
- (B) rubber and linen
- (C) plastic and canvas
- (D) copper and wood

2. How did visitors tour the giant Gulliver in Taichung, Taiwan?

- (A) They walked around him.
- (B) They followed a path through his body.
- (C) They climbed his limbs.
- (D) They viewed him from a nearby platform.

3. Abigail Macias wrote a prize-winning essay about how her father is similar to Atticus Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. You can infer that she ...

- (A) wishes her dad were more educated.
- (B) admires her dad.
- (C) thinks her dad was wrongly accused of a crime.
- (D) is embarrassed by her dad.

4. Who helped write *Family Huddle* along with brothers Eli and Peyton Manning?

- (A) their father, Archie

- (B) their brother, Cooper
- (C) their mother, Olivia
- (D) Jim Madsen

5. Which of the following statements is an opinion?

- (A) Peyton Manning was named MVP in 2007.
- (B) Eli, Peyton, and Archie are Ambassadors of Reading.
- (C) The Mannings state that they value education.
- (D) More children should be able to own books.

6. What genre of literature did Alfred Lord Tennyson write?

- (A) plays
- (B) poetry
- (C) essays
- (D) nonfiction

7. Why does the article compare Tennyson to J. K. Rowling?

- (A) Both are very famous.
- (B) Both wrote about wizards.
- (C) Both wrote about their best friends.
- (D) Both like concerts.

8. The description of *John Adams* by David McCullough explains that the second President faced **controversy**. What does "controversy" mean?

- (A) economic depression

- (B) sadness
- (C) heated disputes
- (D) enemy plots

9. Why did visitors to the giant sculpture of Gulliver from *Gulliver's Travels* feel like Lilliputians?

10. After reading "Atticus Essayist," what can you conclude is the main idea of *To Kill a Mockingbird*?

USES: COPY MACHINE, OPAQUE PROJECTOR, OR TRANSPARENT MASTER FOR OVERHEAD PROJECTOR. SCHOLASTIC INC. GRANTS SUBSCRIBERS OF SCHOLASTIC SCOPE PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS PAGE FOR USE IN THEIR CLASSROOMS. COPYRIGHT © 2009 BY SCHOLASTIC INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Play: *Romeo and Juliet* • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Interpreting Shakespeare

In *Romeo and Juliet*, the play that starts on page 6, certain lines come directly from the pen of William Shakespeare. (Others have been adapted to present-day English.) Can you interpret Shakespeare's English?

Directions: Choose two of the quotes listed in the Quotation Bank below. Locate them in the play, and summarize the context of each quotation. Then explain the quotation in your own words.

Example:

Quote: "Wherefore art thou Romeo? Deny thy father and refuse thy name!"

Context: Juliet has met Romeo earlier that evening. She is standing on her balcony thinking about her feelings for him.

Interpretation: Juliet asks why Romeo has to be a Montague. She wants him to separate from his family, which feuds with her family.

Quotation Bank

Scene 4

Juliet: My only love sprung from my only hate.

Scene 4

Romeo: What light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.

Scene 8

Mercutio: Oh, a plague, a plague on both your houses.

Scene 11

Juliet: Oh, happy dagger! This is thy sheath!

Quote: _____

Context: _____

Meaning: _____

Quote: _____

Context: _____

Meaning: _____

Article: "The SCOPE 100" • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

The Scope 100—Antonyms

Directions: Do you remember the meanings of the six SCOPE 100 words you learned in this issue? Check your knowledge by choosing the correct antonym (opposite) for the words below.

1. weary

- A curious
- B unkind
- C energetic
- D worn-out

3. formulate

- A increase
- B accept
- C deconstruct
- D reject

5. nuance

- A resentment
- B obviousness
- C glee
- D dissatisfaction

2. grave

- A dark
- B sane
- C steady
- D insignificant

4. prodigious

- A ordinary
- B angry
- C constant
- D great

6. antagonize

- A taunt
- B win over
- C upset
- D defy

Now use each word to write your own sentence.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Article: "Having Your Say" • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Write Your Own Poem

Directions: What does courage mean to you? You read what it means to eighth-grader Rebecca Robbins in her original poem "Courage," on page 18. Following her example, choose one word and write a poem about what that word means. Write in verses of two rhyming lines. You may pick a word from the Word Bank below, or think of your own.

WORD BANK

pride	confusion	laughter	triumph
friendship	dignity	embarrassment	ambition

Verse 1: _____

Verse 2: _____

Verse 3: _____

Verse 4: _____

Verse 5: _____

Verse 6: _____

Article: "Power of Art" • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

First-Person Narrative

In "Power of Art" on page 22, Amanda LaMunyon tells her story of what it is like to grow up with Asperger's syndrome and what she has done to overcome its effects. Amanda's narrative is a *first-person account* of her life. That means she tells it from her own point of view, using "I" to recount her feelings and experiences. First-person narrative can be very powerful because it comes directly from the writer to you; it enables you to view things from the narrator's place.

Directions: Answer the questions below to help you better understand first-person narratives, and to write your own personal essay.

1. Find three sentences starting with "I" in "Power of Art" that reveal something important about Amanda LaMunyon.

2. Explain what insight you gained about Amanda from each of the sentences you chose.

3. Why do you think Amanda wrote this personal narrative?

4. What could you write about in your life that you would like to share or that would have an impact on others?

5. Write three sentences starting with "I" that tell why the topic you chose is important.

WRITE NOW!

On a separate sheet of paper, write a first-person narrative about your topic. Use the three sentences you wrote in No. 5 as topic sentences for three paragraphs, and fill them in with supporting details.

Article: "The SCOPE 100" • Issue: September 7, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

What's That Word?

When you read, it's important to understand the meaning of words. But that doesn't mean you have to look everything up in the dictionary. You can often figure out the meanings of new words through context:

- Ask yourself what role the word plays in the sentence. What part of speech is it? Based on what you know from the rest of the sentence or passage, what other words could replace it in the sentence?
- Look at the word's prefix or root. Do you know what they mean? What clues can they give you? For example, in the word "antisocial," the prefix is "anti-" meaning against or opposite. To be social is to enjoy spending time with people. Therefore, to be "antisocial" must mean to dislike the company of others.

Directions: Use context clues to determine the meaning of the words in **bold** in the sentences below. (We picked really hard words on purpose!) Using context clues, circle the definition that best fits the word.

1. "Why can't they just get along?" thought Fiona, as her parents continued to **brabble** in public.
Ⓐ giggle
Ⓑ dance
Ⓒ argue
2. The other dukes and duchesses were shocked by Sir Wittingham's **inurbane** behavior, especially when he burped at the dinner table.
Ⓐ impolite
Ⓑ funny
Ⓒ boring
3. The lifeguards enforced strict rules that no beach balls were allowed in the **natatorium**.
Ⓐ sand
Ⓑ music room
Ⓒ swimming pool
4. Samantha grew tired of his constant criticism and broke up with her **querulous** boyfriend.
Ⓐ long-winded
Ⓑ given to complaining
Ⓒ simple-minded
5. After the garbage collectors had been on strike for five days, a **noisome** odor took over the city.
Ⓐ ridiculous
Ⓑ disgusting
Ⓒ pleasant
6. Like a **frugivorous** animal, Max's mouth began to water when he saw the table strewn with mangos, bananas, and pineapples.
Ⓐ domesticated
Ⓑ furry
Ⓒ fruit-eating
7. Students were forced to take turns reading the material because the school had a **paucity** of textbooks.
Ⓐ scarcity
Ⓑ strict policy
Ⓒ graffiti problem
8. Believing that her pet mouse was missing, Cindy became **feral**, ripping down curtains, slamming doors, and overturning furniture.
Ⓐ mournful
Ⓑ wild
Ⓒ nervous