

Comic Strip: "Jane & Austin's Literary Laughs" • Issue: November 2, 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, NY, NY 10012.

My name: _____ My teacher: _____

My school: _____ My grade: _____

Parent or teacher signature: _____

Jane & Austin's
Literary Laughs

Title: _____

COMIC STRIP

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Writing Rubric

Directions: A rubric is a way to measure the quality of your own work. Use this rubric to assess anything you write. You can apply it to your fiction, nonfiction, personal essays, book reviews, thesis papers—any 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 vary the way I begin sentences? _____

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? _____

Do I vary my vocabulary to avoid repeating the same words over and over? _____

6. EDIT

Did I check spelling? _____

Did I proofread for proper punctuation and grammar? _____

The SCOPE 100 • Issue: November 2, 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. Then use each word in a sentence.

1. astute

- Ⓐ amazing
- Ⓑ thick-headed
- Ⓒ clever
- Ⓓ awesome

2. bombastic

- Ⓐ explosive
- Ⓑ long-winded
- Ⓒ pompous
- Ⓓ straightforward

3. evade

- Ⓐ face
- Ⓑ infinite
- Ⓒ dodge
- Ⓓ avoid

4. industrious

- Ⓐ hardworking
- Ⓑ polluted
- Ⓒ idle
- Ⓓ efficient

5. onerous

- Ⓐ responsible
- Ⓑ toilsome
- Ⓒ culpable
- Ⓓ easy

6. surreptitious

- Ⓐ secret
- Ⓑ forthright
- Ⓒ silly
- Ⓓ amusing

Write a sentence for each of the SCOPE 100 words above.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

Section: Your World • Issue: November 2, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Fact Versus Opinion

A fact is a true statement. An opinion expresses a viewpoint.

EXAMPLE:

Fact: Millions of families have pet dogs.

Opinion: Dogs make the best pets.

Directions: Read the following sentences about 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. James Franco wrote a book of short stories.
- _____ 2. James Franco's list of talents is long and impressive.
- _____ 3. Classic literature is inspiring a new wave of video games.
- _____ 4. In *Warriors Don't Cry*, Melba Pattillo Beals writes about being one of the Little Rock Nine.
- _____ 5. It's impressive to be a 15-year-old author of a 603-page novel about Spartacus.
- _____ 6. Lee So-young used her imagination to develop a fictional account of Spartacus.
- _____ 7. Being married to Henry VIII would have been stressful.
- _____ 8. Artists in Australia depicted an image of Mona Lisa using coffee cups.

WRITE NOW!

Sometimes facts support or defend opinions. For example, "Maria is generous" is an opinion, but "Maria gave half of her cookies to Ben" is a fact that demonstrates Maria's generosity. Write a fact that supports the opinion below about King Henry VIII. Then write an opinion that could be formed based on the fact about James Franco.

Opinion: King Henry VIII had a bad temper.

Fact: _____

Fact: Last year, James Franco had a book published, worked on two graduate degrees, and lent his voice to live and recorded readings.

Opinion: _____

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Headlines That Wow

A headline is the large text at the top of a story. A good headline tells you what the story is about, grabs your attention with clever wording, and makes you want to read the story.

EXAMPLE:

For a story about disappearing frogs, good headlines would be:

“Freaky Frog Mystery” or **“Sleuths in the Swamp”**

Some less exciting headlines would be:

“Frogs Disappear,” “Looking for Frogs,” or **“Frogs Big and Small”**

Directions: Write a new headline for each of the Your World headlines from this issue.

“Mona Lisa Makeover”

Your headline:

“Long Live the King?”

Your headline:

“Video Games Meet Classics”

Your headline:

“Actor Wears Literary Hat”

Your headline:

“Teen Writes Historical Fiction”

Your headline:

Article: "Writing With Walter" • Issue: November 2, 2009

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Character Sketch

In the article "Writing With Walter," the author Walter Dean Myers explains that he used to develop his characters' backgrounds by filling out job applications for them. In this activity, you fill out an application for your own character.

Directions: First, create a character in your head. Then, decide what job your character is applying for, such as chef, advertising executive, artist, dog walker, doctor, nurse, teacher, and so forth. Fill in the requested information below for the character you have created.

Job: _____**Name:** _____**Current Address (including city, state, and country):** _____**Date of Birth:** _____**Place of Birth:** _____**High School:** _____**College:** _____**Degree(s):** _____**Job Experience (list previous jobs):** __________

_____**Explain why you are a good candidate for this job:** __________

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Article: "Writing With Walter" • Issue: November 2, 2009

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"Writing With Walter" Quiz

Directions: Read the article "Writing With Walter," and answer these questions.

1. How does Walter Dean Myers approach writing each of his books?
 - Ⓐ He gets an idea for a character and starts writing.
 - Ⓑ He writes about real people, so he researches that person and then begins writing.
 - Ⓒ He spends a lot of time planning each book before he starts writing.
 - Ⓓ He writes the last chapter first.

2. What topics interest Walter Dean Myers?
 - Ⓐ slavery
 - Ⓑ the Civil War
 - Ⓒ race relations
 - Ⓓ all of the above

3. When does Walter Dean Myers's book *Riot* take place?
 - Ⓐ during the 1860s
 - Ⓑ during the Civil War
 - Ⓒ during the early 1800s
 - Ⓓ both a and b

4. What kind of relationship does Walter Dean Myers most likely have with his characters?
 - Ⓐ casual
 - Ⓑ close
 - Ⓒ detached
 - Ⓓ formal

5. Where was Walter Dean Myers raised?
 - Ⓐ Martinsburg, West Virginia
 - Ⓑ New York, New York
 - Ⓒ Miami, Florida
 - Ⓓ Columbus, Ohio

6. According to the article, how does Walter Dean Myers decide what his characters will look like?
 - Ⓐ He bases them on people he knows.
 - Ⓑ He imagines them.
 - Ⓒ He cuts out photographs of people in magazines.
 - Ⓓ He takes photographs of strangers he sees in shops, restaurants, parks, etc.

7. Which of the following is a quote from Walter Dean Myers about where he finds inspiration?
 - Ⓐ "If something doesn't make sense, that's the inspiration."
 - Ⓑ "I find inspiration from stories about slavery."
 - Ⓒ "I often find inspiration for a story while watching a movie."
 - Ⓓ "Inspiration often comes to me at restaurants."

8. Which of the following statements is FALSE?
 - Ⓐ Walter Dean Myers had writer's block when he was young.
 - Ⓑ Walter Dean Myers considers himself a genius.
 - Ⓒ Walter Dean Myers's latest novel is called *Riot*.
 - Ⓓ Walter Dean Myers spends a lot of time with his characters before he starts writing about them.

9. Do you think Walter Dean Myers had to do any research to write his book *Riot*? Why or why not?

10. What in your world doesn't make any sense? Explain.

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Section: Your World • Issue: November 2, 2009

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Your World Quiz

Directions: Read the articles in the Your World section, and answer these questions.

1. Which artist had one of his paintings depicted through a display of coffee cups?
 - Ⓐ Andy Warhol
 - Ⓑ Keith Haring
 - Ⓒ Leonardo da Vinci
 - Ⓓ Michelangelo

2. Which former King of England was celebrated in London last summer?
 - Ⓐ King George I
 - Ⓑ King Henry V
 - Ⓒ King Henry VIII
 - Ⓓ King Edward VI

3. What is one thing this King is remembered for?
 - Ⓐ taking England to war
 - Ⓑ beheading two of his wives
 - Ⓒ having decadent parties
 - Ⓓ spending much of England's money on building castles and palaces

4. What is the definition of **coronation**?
 - Ⓐ ceremony of crowning a queen or king
 - Ⓑ funeral for a king or queen
 - Ⓒ the transfer of power between sovereign leaders
 - Ⓓ marriage of a king or queen

5. Which classic book is not inspiring a new wave of video games?
 - Ⓐ *The Three Musketeers*
 - Ⓑ *Alice in Wonderland*
 - Ⓒ *A Christmas Carol*
 - Ⓓ *A Tale of Two Cities*

6. Which set of words BEST describes this past year of James Franco's life?
 - Ⓐ hectic and productive
 - Ⓑ busy and depressing
 - Ⓒ inspiring and lonely
 - Ⓓ historical and passionate

7. What significance does the title of Franco's book have to his life?
 - Ⓐ It's where he met his wife.
 - Ⓑ It's where he made his first film.
 - Ⓒ It's the town where he grew up.
 - Ⓓ It's where he is going to graduate school.

8. According to the article, why is 15-year-old Lee So-young's novel especially impressive?
 - Ⓐ Her novel is 603 pages.
 - Ⓑ She wrote it about a Roman gladiator who lived more than 2,000 years ago.
 - Ⓒ She did the research and wrote the book in a year and a half.
 - Ⓓ She wrote the book in English and not her native language, Korean.

9. How do you think Lee So-young feels about having her novel published?

10. James Franco seems to find time to pursue his many interests. Are you currently pursuing all of your interests? If not, what would you like to pursue? How can you find a way to do it?

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Article: "Getting to Know Selena" • Issue: November 2, 2009

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Brush Up on Your Latin

In this issue of *Scope*, you had to use context clues for the story "Getting to Know Selena." Context clues help you determine the meanings of words you don't know. Latin roots can give you many clues about the meaning of a word.

Latin Root	Meaning	Example
<i>dict</i>	say	predict
<i>ject</i>	throw	project
<i>port</i>	carry	export
<i>scrib, script</i>	write	inscription
<i>tract</i>	pull or drag	retract
<i>vert</i>	turn	invert

Directions: Using context clues and the meaning of the Latin roots above, circle the definition that best fits the words in bold below.

- Brian **dictated** the assignment to the class.
 - (A) explained
 - (B) said the opposite of what he meant
 - (C) told in advance
- Our drive was **diverted** when we accidentally took a detour.
 - (A) turned upside down
 - (B) turned from one course to another
 - (C) turned out to be a lot of fun
- The cool museum exhibit **attracts** everyone who walks by.
 - (A) uses gravity
 - (B) draws by appeal
 - (C) drags by force
- The basketball player was **ejected** from the game after he yelled at the referee.
 - (A) inserted between other players
 - (B) forced into
 - (C) thrown out
- The U.S. **imports** many products from China.
 - (A) brings in
 - (B) sends out
 - (C) carries a message to
- Scott read a **description** of his vacation to the class.
 - (A) an account that gives a mental image
 - (B) the process of drawing a figure
 - (C) a written copy of something

YOUR TURN!

Choose one of the Latin roots and its meaning listed in the chart, and think of another a word you know with that root. Write the word and its definition on the line below.

Play: *Sherlock Holmes* • Issue: November 2, 2009

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Abstract & Concrete Nouns

A **concrete noun** is something you can detect with your five senses—you can smell, see, touch, taste, or hear it. An **abstract noun**, such as “compassion,” cannot be detected with your senses.

Directions: Read the sentences below from *Sherlock Holmes*, and decide if the boldface word is an abstract or a concrete noun. In the blank provided, write an **A** for abstract and **C** for concrete.

- _____ 1. The **year** is 1890.
- _____ 2. Holmes silently enters the halls leading underneath the **cathedral**.
- _____ 3. Irene leaves an **envelope** with information about the missing person.
- _____ 4. I’m sure it’s quite a **mystery** as to where you are.
- _____ 5. We don’t ask you to share our **faith**.
- _____ 6. I have one **question**, Sir Thomas.
- _____ 7. Watson can’t resist the **temptation** to examine the body with Holmes.
- _____ 8. I cautioned you to accept that this is beyond your **control**.
- _____ 9. You remember the **thug** who died at Reordon’s?
- _____ 10. At noon **tomorrow**, the world as you know it ends!

WRITE NOW!

Now try writing your own paragraph using concrete and abstract nouns. On a separate sheet of paper, write one paragraph describing something you are passionate about. After you are done, underline the concrete nouns and circle the abstract nouns. Use at least three of each. Here are some abstract nouns you might include:

passion	love	thoughtfulness	tenderness
compassion	success	feeling	happiness
empathy	pleasure	sympathy	enjoyment

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Searching for Sarcasm

Sarcasm is a form of sharp humor intended to make its subject the target of contempt or ridicule. Sarcasm is often used as a form of irony in which praise is actually an insult or a critique. For example, if you have a friend who is always late, you might say sarcastically, "Right on time, as always!"

Directions: There is a lot of sarcasm in the play *Sherlock Holmes*, especially spoken by Holmes himself. Fill out the graphic organizer below by finding four examples of sarcasm and explaining what the character really meant.

Example of sarcasm	What the speaker really meant
<p>Holmes: Love what you've done with the place.</p>	<p>Holmes thinks that the way Blackwood decorated his room at the prison is creepy.</p>

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Play: *Sherlock Holmes* • Issue: November 2, 2009

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Solving Syllogisms

Sherlock Holmes uses deductive reasoning to solve mysteries. A **syllogism** (SIH-luh-jih-zum) is one form of deductive reasoning. Syllogisms present certain assumptions from which you can draw a conclusion.

Directions: To practice your deductive reasoning skills, determine if each syllogism is **TRUE** or **FALSE**.

EXAMPLE OF A **TRUE** SYLLOGISM

All mammals are warm-blooded.
All dogs are mammals.
Therefore, all dogs are warm-blooded.

EXAMPLE OF A **FALSE** SYLLOGISM

All Londoners are European.
No Parisians are Londoners.
Therefore, no Parisians are European.

- _____ 1. All birds have feathers.
All robins are birds.
Therefore, robins have feathers.
- _____ 2. Jacob lives in Cleveland, Ohio.
Jacob is currently in Ohio.
Therefore, Jacob is in Cleveland.
- _____ 3. Matt watches most White Sox games.
The White Sox played last night.
Therefore, Matt watched the game.
- _____ 4. If you study hard, you will probably get good grades.
Isabel studied really hard for her history test.
Therefore, she will definitely get an "A."
- _____ 5. Everyone at Harding High School who has pink hair also has a pet dog.
Olivia goes to Harding School and has pink hair.
Therefore, Olivia must have a pet dog.
- _____ 6. All of Sarah's cats have orange fur.
Sarah gave one of her cats to Jessica.
Therefore, Jessica now has an orange cat.
- _____ 7. It is a law that passengers in cars must wear seat belts.
Ella never breaks the law.
Therefore, Ella always wears her seat belt when riding in a car.

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Find the Foreshadowing

Foreshadowing is a literary device in which an author drops hints about plot developments to come later in the story. An example of foreshadowing is the description of dark clouds in the distance. This hints that a storm is coming, which could be literal or metaphorical.

Directions: Explain what the following statements from *Sherlock Holmes* foreshadow. Then, find your own example of foreshadowing from the play.

- N1:** Sherlock Holmes and Dr. John Watson are a crack team of private detectives who use elementary logic and Holmes’s vast knowledge to solve mysteries.

N2: The two sleuths are on the trail of one of the city’s most notorious criminals, Lord Blackwood, whose reign of terror throughout London is reaching its peak.

- Constable Clark:** It’s Lord Blackwood, sir. He has come back from the dead.

- Holmes:** I have one question, Sir Thomas. If the rest of his family is dead, why are you still alive?

N4: Judging by the nervous look on Sir Thomas’s face, he clearly worries about the same thing.

YOUR TURN

Foreshadowing statement:

What this statement foreshadows:
