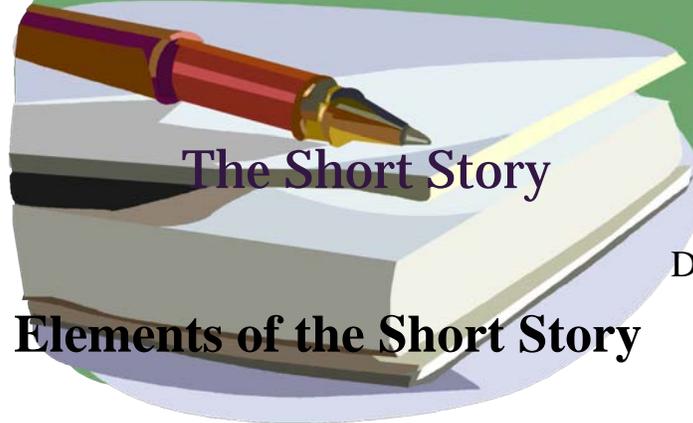


Independent Reading Guide



The Short Story

Name(s):

Date:

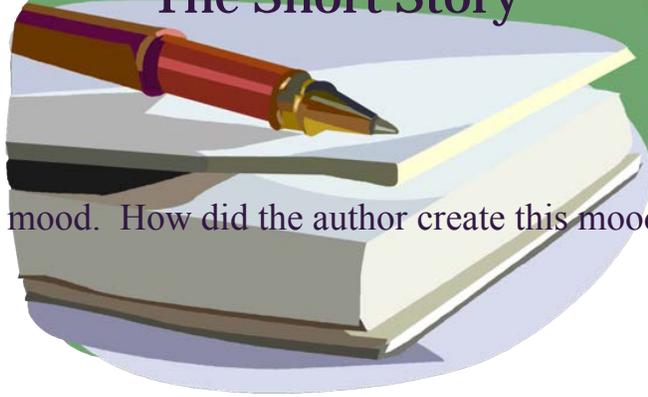
Elements of the Short Story

Story Title:

1. Who is the protagonist in the story? Who is the antagonist?
2. What situation or choice challenges the protagonist?
3. How is the main conflict resolved?
4. What important characters, situations, or beliefs are part of the conflict(s)?
5. Describe the protagonist's personality. Describe the antagonist.
6. Where, and under what conditions, does the story mostly take place?
7. How does the setting affect the ideas or motives of the protagonist or antagonist?
8. How does the setting impact the conflict(s) in the story?

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9. Describe the story's mood. How did the author create this mood?

10. Summarize the story's theme (central idea).

11. What clues, including direct or implied statements, helped you understand the theme?

Response to the Short Story

Rate the story by selecting your choices. Then explain the reasoning for your choices.

12. The characters and dialogue are believable, and the plot engages my interest.

weak

fair

strong

13. This story is written in a style that is clear and interesting.

weak

fair

strong

14. This story gives me insight into understanding people and events.

weak

fair

strong

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Response to the Short Story

15. I could visualize the details of this story as I read it.

weak

fair

strong

16. Overall, I rate this story as:

weak

fair

strong

Reader's Portfolio

- Describe a passage or development in the story that you found puzzling or curious. Write two questions that the author could answer to clarify the story or satisfy your curiosity.
- Write two Essential Questions that future students should be given to think about before reading this story.
- In a short paragraph, describe a part of the story that reminds you of something in your own life, although not necessarily something that happened to you.