


Reading Fiction


THE ACTIVE READER
Unit 1, Part 1, Grade 10



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Understanding Plot

- A key word in a cause-and-effect relationship is the word *because*.
- At any point in the story, pause to complete the following frame:
 - _____ is occurring
because _____.



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Analyzing Characters

In addition to actions, characterization can occur principally through:

- what a character says or thinks.
- what other characters say about that character.
- what the author or narrator says about the character.

Character	
Words and actions	
Thoughts	
Appearance	
What other think	

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Visualizing Setting

Minimal reference to concrete physical details of sight, sound, and smell will often go a long way in suggesting a setting or atmosphere.

- Close your eyes to visualize the setting in the story.
- Then list concrete details in the setting you've just visualized.

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Recognizing Theme

- When you finish the story, describe the main character at the beginning of the story and that same character at the end of the story.
 - What did the character learn?
 - How does the title relate to the story?
- Apply these questions to a story and state the theme in one sentence.

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Determining Point of View

- Select two passages from the story.
 - a dramatic scene with dialogue
 - a narrative passage without dialogue
- List all of the details you can find that indicate the point of view the author is using.



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