CHARACTERS: Authors create dynamic characters through the methods of characterization.

As you read pay attention to:

- the words the character says
- the thoughts of the character,
- the actions he/she does
- and how others think, talk, and feel about him/her.

The use of these methods reveals a character’s traits. In the chart below write down the traits of the main characters and explain what happened in the story that causes you to think this way.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Main character(s)</th>
<th>Trait(s) ex: brave, honest, loyal</th>
<th>Explain how the trait is revealed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

PLOT/CONFLICT: A conflict is a problem the character(s) encounter. Write down the types of conflicts you found in the novel and give a brief description of what happened. The seven basic types of conflicts are. Circle the ones that are found in your book.

Person vs. nature
Person vs. unknown
Person vs. self
Person vs. society
Person vs. person
Person vs. machine
Person vs. destiny/fate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conflict</th>
<th>Describe the conflict (include characters’ names and setting in description)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning (Exposition) How was the conflict introduced?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Early Middle (Rising Action)</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
THEMATICAL IDEA:
The thematic idea is the abstract concept that the author examines or explores in the story of the book. Here are just a few of the many possible literary thematic ideas that often show up:

- Love (or hate)
- Rebellion
- Greed
- Prejudice
- Evil/Good
- Loss of Innocence
- Family
- Grief
- Perseverance
- Friendship
- Courage (or Fear)
- Freedom
- Search for Identity
- Power
- Loyalty

1. **Look at the conflict** you described on the first side and then **look at the list** of thematic ideas.
2. **Choose one thematic idea** that you think the author explored. **Highlight** your choice and **complete the sentence starter below** with your information.

In the book ____________________, by _____________________________, the author explores the thematic idea of ________________.

What message/lesson does the author want you to learn by reading this book? Explain what happens in the novel that leads you to this conclusion.

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