**Identifying Theme→ Role A: Characters** Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**LT:** *I can work with my peers to identify the theme and how the elements of plot contribute to the theme.*

**Task (Group):** As a group, read aloud the story “Harrison Bergeron,” by Kurt Vonnegut (PG 98). Together, answer the questions below and come up with the primary theme that the author wanted to get across to his readers. You should all have the same theme before you move on to your individual task.

1. Describe what this story is about:
2. What moral or lesson is the author trying to get across with this story? Essentially, what is the stories primary theme?

**Task (individually):** As the member who is analyzing the characters, you will be tracking the character development. You will do so by answering the questions below to critically think about how the characters respond to the conflicts in the story and why they develop (or not develop) the way they do.

1. Below are the primary characters in the story. Next to each, identify if they are flat or round. If they are round, list the traits we know about them (appearance, feelings, behaviors). If they are flat, explain why you think the author included them in the story, what is their purpose in the story? If they are a protagonist or antagonist, label that too. Identify anything about them you think may be important.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Hazel |  |
| George |  |
| Harrison |  |
| Diana Moon  Glampers |  |
| Ballerina |  |

1. What is the problem that the characters face? How do they feel about the problem? Describe their reactions to the problems they face. What are your reactions to the way they react to the problems?

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Problems the Characters Face & their reaction to the problem (what do they do about the problem?) | What is your reaction to how they deal with the problem, is it what you would do? |
| Hazel |  |  |
| George |  |  |
| Harrison |  |  |
| Diana Moon  Glampers |  |  |

1. Which character or characters are dynamic and which are static? What happens to dynamic characters in this story? Why is this significant to the theme?

1. Review your own responses and then think about how they connect to the theme your group identified. Write a brief paragraph that explains how the characters and their reactions lead the reader to the theme.