

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_

## Pathways to a Theme

**When you have read your chosen story, respond to the following questions:**

1. What is happening in the story? Answer in point form or full sentences.

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2. Identify and describe the conflict in the story.

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3. Brainstorm words or phrases that connect to the class discussion on the human condition.

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4. **What are 2-3 the theme or big idea of the story? Create a theme statement.**

-You can create a theme statement by using the formula **topic+treatment (+/-) = result**. Eg. In Macbeth, one could say that “ambition + too much = destruction”. Therefore the theme statement would be “*Too much ambition can lead to destruction*”

**-A theme statement has no absolutes, no cliches and no conversational language.** Eg. “*I think its to never judge a book by its cover*” is **NOT** a good theme statement.

Topic \_\_\_\_\_ + treatment(+/-) \_\_\_\_\_ = result \_\_\_\_\_

Theme Statement

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Topic \_\_\_\_\_ + treatment(+/-) \_\_\_\_\_ = result \_\_\_\_\_

Theme Statement

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Topic \_\_\_\_\_ + treatment(+/-) \_\_\_\_\_ = result \_\_\_\_\_

Theme Statement

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5. **Change the theme statements into a deep questions.** Eg. *What can be the result of too much ambition?* OR *Can too much ambition lead to destruction?*

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