Assignment Record

Instructions:
Use the list below to keep track of your assignments. As you complete each assignment, check it off on the blank under the Complete column.

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**Comprehension Questions: Chapter One**

1. Why is the Watson family all huddled together on the chesterfield?

2. Who does Dad say was almost their daddy?

3. Whose warm house do they plan to go to for the night?

4. After Daddy gets the Brown Bomber started, what does he instruct Byron and Kenny to do?

5. While Byron is admiring himself in the rearview mirror, what happens?

6. Daddy laughs so hard at Byron's predicament, what does he say that no one can call him?

7. How does Mamma extract Byron from the mirror?

8. Kenny tells Joey that he has a nickname for Byron. What is it?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Two

1. At Clarke Elementary, who is King of the kindergarten to fourth grade?

2. In which grade is Kenny?

3. What is Byron's status in the school?

4. Why does Mr. Alums have Kenny visit his fourth grade class?

5. When Kenny reads too quickly, what does Miss Henry do to slow him down?

6. Kenny has a problem in one eye. What is the medical term for this problem?

7. How does Kenny figure the new boy on the bus will save him?

8. How are the new boys dressed?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Three

1. Mrs. Cordell seats the oldest new boy beside Kenny. What is his name?

2. Rufus hasn’t brought any lunch to school. What does Kenny give him?

3. Rufus only eats half of the lunch that Kenny gives him. What does he do with the other half?

4. Why is Rufus so amazed when he sees the squirrel?

5. Kenny’s playmate is LJ Jones. What is there about him that Kenny doesn’t like?

6. Why do you suppose that LJ proposes the huge battle?

7. Rufus becomes disappointed and angry with Kenny. Why does he ignore Kenny?

8. Who is responsible for getting Kenny and Rufus together again?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Four

1. Where was Mrs. Watson born?

2. During winter, how does Momma dress Joey and Kenny for school?

3. When Momma explains to Joey that the cold is dangerous and that people die in it all the time, what is Joey’s question?

4. According to Byron, where do all the frozen people go?

5. How does Kenny share his gloves with Rufus?

6. Why do you suppose that Kenny and Rufus know for sure that Larry Dunn is wearing Kenny’s gloves?

7. Who arrives to help Kenny?

8. Byron says that he is making a movie. What is the name of it?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Five

1. Why is his mother reprimanding Byron?

2. How long before Byron is doing it again?

3. Why does Momma tell Joey to go to the kitchen to bring some matches?

4. Why does Joey deliberately keep putting herself between Momma and Byron?

5. Joey keeps blowing out the match. How many times in total does Momma try to burn Byron’s fingers?

6. What lesson is Momma trying to teach?

7. When Momma finally gives up, who will have to deal with Byron?
**Comprehension Questions: Chapter Six**

1. Momma sends Byron and Kenny to the grocery store. What items does she want?

2. When Kenny orders the items from Mr. Mitchell, what does he discover?

3. How does Byron normally give the impression that he has carried the groceries all the way home?

4. What milk do the boys call welfare food?

5. A week later, behind Mitchell’s store, what does Kenny discover?

6. How does Byron kill the mourning dove?

7. Why do you suppose Byron becomes sick and vomits?

8. What does Byron do with the dead bird?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Seven

1. Why is Byron trying to sneak in the back door without being seen?

2. What color is Byron’s hair now?

3. Why does Joetta want to take Byron to the bathroom before Daddy gets home?

4. After taking verbal abuse from Momma, Kenny and Joey, what happens when Daddy gets home?

5. After Daddy is finished with Byron, what chore does he give him?

6. When Kenny and Joey venture into the house again, with whom is Daddy talking on the phone?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Eight

1. Kenny, Joey and Rufus help Daddy to clean and polish the car. What have they named it?

2. Daddy has another bag in the trunk. What is in it?

3. According to Kenny, why did Blackie growl at someone in his own family?

4. When Daddy comes home, he shuts off the TV. Why?

5. What has Daddy installed in the car?

6. A new system has been invented to overcome the vibration problem. What is it called?

7. Why do you suppose Momma and Daddy are making the trip to Alabama?

8. Riding the bus, how long would it take to get from Flint, Michigan to Alabama?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Nine

1. To scare Byron, Kenny suggests that his dad need only drive to Ohio and drop him off. Why?

2. Why do Momma and Daddy want to leave Byron for a while with Grandma Sands?

3. Kenny has three questions for his dad. What is the third?

4. Mrs. Davidson bought a little angel for a gift for Joey. Why doesn’t Joey like it?

5. Why do Momma and Daddy have Byron sleep with them?

6. How far will they drive the first day?

7. On their way to Alabama, how does Byron plan to treat his family?

8. Why does Kenny feel pretty good all the way to Birmingham?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Ten

1. On the subject of outhouses, what is Grandma Sands' opinion?

2. What does Kenny mean by Joey’s leaking head?

3. When they arrive at Cincinnati, what decision does Daddy make?

4. When Daddy stops next time, where are they?

5. Kenny asks Byron to define redneck. What is his response?

6. When Daddy tells them to stick their hands out the window to feel the air, what does he say that it feels like?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Eleven

1. When Kenny asks his dad are we there yet? his dad answers et tu Brute. What do you suppose this means?

2. The Ultra Glide experiences problems while Daddy is listening to the radio. What type of music is playing?

3. In Momma’s real southern accent, what does she announce?

4. The first time that Kenny sees Grandma Sands, how does he describe her?

5. According to Kenny, how short is Grandma Sands?

6. Grandma says Byron can help with the things that someone else used to do. Who?

7. According to Byron, how old is Grandma?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Twelve

1. What does Mr. Robert call his dog?

2. Toddy is a special breed. What type is he?

3. How did Toddy almost drown?

4. How did Mr. Robert save Toddy?

5. During the first morning at Grandma Sands, what does Kenny have for breakfast?

6. For how long has Grandpa Sands been dead?

7. Why is Mr. Robert taking Daddy, Byron, Joey and Kenny to the lake?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Thirteen

1. At Colliers’ Landing, in what did little Jimmy Thomas get caught?

2. While Joey and Byron head for the swimming area, where does Kenny go?

3. Because Grandma Sands only told them about one drowning, why does Kenny think Mr. Collier put up a sign that states there have been six drowning deaths?

4. When Kenny decides to wade in the water, what is his second warning?

5. Why does Kenny reach and step into deeper water?

6. While Kenny is in trouble in the water, why does he wish for a genie?

7. How does Kenny finally get out of the lake?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Fourteen

1. How does Kenny know that it’s Sunday?

2. What prevents Kenny from falling asleep under the tree?

3. Byron said that someone came by to report the cause of the noise. What was the noise?

4. When Kenny tries to pull out the shiny black shoe, who does he think is pulling it back?

5. Joey comes to sit by Kenny on his bed. Why does he think that the wool pooh has brought her home?

6. Why does Joey think Kenny is acting so weird?

7. Why doesn’t Grandma Sands know where Daddy, Momma and Byron have gone?
Comprehension Questions: Chapter Fifteen

1. Where is the *World-Famous Watson Pet Hospital* located?

2. Who reported seeing Kenny in the church after the explosion?

3. When had Kenny ever known Byron to be a snitch?

4. Why does Byron take Kenny to the bathroom to show him his face in the mirror?

5. Why does Kenny tell Byron that he is ashamed of himself?

6. How does Byron assure Kenny that he is going to be okay?
Reading Response: Visual Interpretation

Notes:
A hyperbole is an exaggerated statement that goes beyond what is true or normal.

Instructions:
Illustrate the hyperbole written below.

"It was so cold that if you spit, the slob would be an ice cube before it hit the ground. It was about a zillion degrees below zero." (p.1)
Vocabulary: Crossword Puzzle & Word Search #1

Instructions:
Use the word list from the word search below as your word list for the crossword puzzle on the following page. All words are used once.

```
N N U D Y R R A L Y A F Z E
O S T N E U Q N I L E D V C
I W K E T R P E Z O S I L I
T N E C C A N R E H T U O S
A O E U U O T C R C A L O I
T K T P B R E S A M L Z C U
I C J M Y Q T O O O A C I T
M D A T C L I E Q M I R Y Q
I H C D Y D E D E G M R L S C
Y A K S A C M K K A U E V H
M N F R T H V T E L B J H F
M W R E B M O B N W O R B T
U G O I E O Y D N E B I A L
M G S L L P Q R Y F O L I G
V P T P E G Q L R X B S Z I
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Brownbomber    Jackfrost    Momma
Burialatsea    Joey       Mummyimitation
By             Kenny       Pliers
Delinquent     Larry      Radioactive
Garbagetrucks  LarryDunn  Southernaccent
Hambone        Ly         Thermostat

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Crossword Puzzle #1

1. the only Watson not born in Flint
2. what other kids called the Watsons when Byron wasn’t around
3. froze-up Southern folks
4. angry Momma
5. King of kindergarten to grade four
6. dangerous emmissions
7. leaves an icy trail behind him
8. Maytag Washes
9. toilet paper parachutes flushed down the toilet
10. nickname
11. young person always in trouble
12. a device used for temperature control
13. a small tool for bending or cutting wire or handling small objects
14. aquired many of Kenny’s dinosaurs
15. 1948 Plymouth
16. a very good reader
17. a clown

ACROSS

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Reading Response: Illustrated Time Line

Instructions:

Illustrate in chronological order four events that take place in chapters 1-7.
Reading Response: Timeline

Instructions:
Using the timeline below, list the most important events of chapters 8-15.

Chapters 8-15

#5

#6

#7

#8

#9

#10
Reading Response: Plot/Exposition

Notes:
The exposition is the beginning of a story where we are introduced to the main character(s), the setting and any background information that plays a role in the story. The exposition is important to our understanding of the plot.

Instructions:
In bullet form, fill in the web below. List the characters, fill in any necessary background information and describe the setting.
Reading Response: Character Webs

Instructions:
Using the webs provided below, insert one adjective and support each with a direct quote from the novel.

Intelligent
“...because I loved to read, people thought I was real smart, teachers especially.”
(p. 22)

Kenny

______________  ______________

______________  ______________

______________  ______________

______________  ______________

Byron

______________  ______________

______________  ______________

______________  ______________

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Reading Response: Character Webs (Cont’d)

Instructions:
Using the webs provided below, insert one adjective and support each with a direct quote from the novel.

Daddy

Joetta

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Reading Response: Visual Interpretation

Notes:
A simile is a comparison of two unlike things in which a word of comparison (like, as or than) is used.

Instructions:
Interpret the simile below.

"The new kid pointed at the squirrel like his finger was a gun..." (p. 35)
Reading Response: Illustration

Instructions:
In the boxes to the right of each word below, illustrate with great detail the bold faced words.

“… little plastic dinosaurs…”

“… toilet paper parachutes…”

“… a little angel that was kind of chubby and had big wings and a halo made out of straw…”
Reading Response: Motif

Notes:
Motif is a term for an idea or theme in literature that is often repeated. In the novel, The Watson's Go to Birmingham-1963, one motif is humor.

The author, Christopher Paul Curtis, eases tension through humor and creates certain feelings in the minds of his characters and his readers.

Instructions:
In the novel The Watson's Go to Birmingham-1963, find two instances where humor eases tension in the novel. Write your answer in the manner illustrated below. Include a direct quote from the novel. Your response should be 6-8 sentences long.

Example Response:

Throughout the novel it becomes increasingly clear that the Watsons, like other African Americans, are victims of prejudice. And when Mr. Watson is teasing his wife about an old boyfriend, Hambone Henderson, we witness Mr. Watson's fine art of making light of something as serious as the segregation of blacks and whites in Alabama.

'You know Birmingham is a good place, and I don't mean just the weather either. The life is slower, the people are friendlier-'

'Oh yeah,' Dad interrupted, 'They're a laugh a minute down there. Let's see, where was that 'Coloreds Only' bathroom downtown?'

'Daniel, you know what I mean, things aren't perfect but people are more honest about the way they feel…'

Mr. Watson has a great way of putting things into perspective, while Mrs. Watson is perhaps a little too forgiving at times. However, by the end of the novel I'm not so sure that is still the case.
#1. Motif: humor

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#2. Motif: humor

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Reading Response: Plot/Rising Action

Notes:
Action builds the plot in a story. The action in a story is built through conflict, both external and internal. Therefore, to describe the action in a story it is necessary to describe the conflict.

Instructions:
The rising action includes the conflict that occurs before the climax. Describe the rising action in The Watson’s Go to Birmingham-1963 by outlining both the external and internal conflict in bullet form.

Conflicts (events) Before the Climax
•
Reading Response: Visual Interpretation

Notes:
A simile is a comparison of two unlike things in which a word of comparison (like, as or than) is used.

Instructions:
Interpret the simile below.
Reading Response: Plot/Climax

Notes:
The **climax** in a story is the **turning point**, where the **rising action** builds to a **peak** and the **main character** comes **face to face** with the **major conflict**.

Instructions:
Identify the climax in *The Watson's Go to Birmingham-1963* and support your opinion with a direct quote from the novel. Your answer should be 4-6 sentences in length. Use the lines on the following page to write your answer.

Example Response:

> In the novel *Ten Steps to Eden*, the protagonist Mike Barkley has finally caught up with Brett Collins and is confronted with a difficult decision. Brett has told Mike that he won't be arrested and sent to jail. He's threatening to jump off a fifteenth floor window ledge if Brett doesn't leave and forget that he ever found him. "I'd rather die, Mike, than go back to prison." Mike lunges and grabs one of Brett's hands causing Brett to dangle from the window ledge. Clearly, this moment marks a turning point in the story when Mike has to decide how committed he is to helping Brett.
Reading Response: Plot/Falling Action

Instructions:
The falling action includes the conflict that occurs after the climax. Describe the falling action in *The Watson's Go to Birmingham-1963* by outlining both the external and internal conflict.

Conflicts (events) after the Climax

-
Reading Response: Conflict

Notes:
A problem or complication exists in every story that creates conflict. This conflict can be external or internal.

One type of external conflict arises when a main character is in conflict with another character (person vs. person). Another type of external conflict arises when a main character is in conflict with nature (person vs. nature). Person vs. society is where a character has a problem with some element of society such as school, laws or some other accepted way of doing things. At other times a character may be doing battle with uncontrollable problems. If the problem appears to be an unbelievable coincidence, fate can be considered the cause of conflict.

A character may be experiencing internal conflict (person vs. self) and seems to be torn in two different directions. It is possible for a main character to be experiencing more than one type of conflict. By the end of a story, the character facing a conflict succeeds or fails in achieving his/her goal, or solving his/her problem.

The way a conflict is solved is called the resolution. Every conflict has a resolution. Conflict and resolution are part of a story’s plot or main action.

Tension is a product of conflict. A good story needs conflict and tension. A good writer is able to keep the tension in a story “as taut as a bow string.”

Example Response:
In the novel Ten Steps to Eden, identify the conflict, quote directly from its text and provide further support for your quote. Use the example that follows as your guide.

Note, in the first sentence, the novel’s title and author is stated. The second sentence introduces the quote. The third sentence states the quote. The fourth and fifth sentences explain the type of conflict the quote illustrates and provides further support for the quote.
I am presently reading Adam Andeve’s novel, *Ten Steps to Eden*. On page 30, the protagonist/detective Mike Barkley, is torn between arresting his best friend Brett Collins for murder, or destroying the incriminating evidence against Collins. “*Tyrone Beers got what he deserved. Why should I arrest Brett for seeing justice done?*” Mike Barkley is clearly in conflict with himself. Person vs. self is evidenced here when Mike is confronted with what he sees, as a moral dilemma.

**Instructions:**
In the novel *The Watson’s Go to Birmingham-1963*, identify one example of conflict, quote directly from its text and provide further support for your quote. Use the example from the previous page as your guide.

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Reading Response: Visual Interpretation

Notes:
A simile is a comparison of two unlike things in which a word of comparison (like, as or than) is used.

Instructions:
Interpret the simile below.
Reading Response: Plot Summary

Notes:
The plot is the action of the story. During the rising action of the story various problems arise that lead up to the climax. The highest point in the action of the story is the climax. After the climax the action subsides (falls) and leads to a resolution.

Instructions:
Fill in the boxes to explain the plot in the novel The Watson’s Go to Birmingham—1963. Choose your words carefully and write in bullet form.

Climax
- The turning point

Exposition
- Background
- Setting
- Characters

RISING ACTION
- Conflicts leading to the climax

FALLING ACTION
- Conflicts that lead to a resolution

Resolution
- Problems are solved
Vocabulary: Crossword Puzzle & Word Search #2

Instructions:
Use the word list from the word search below as your word list for the crossword puzzle on the following page. All words are used once.

B Y S T T Q U X R P O T D V E
R E B M O B N W O R B C I C R
D U H I G H - F I D E L I T Y
A G P I G E O N Q A W B I P C
N O S D N A S A M D N A R G Z
I L N N Y D D O T T K P C Y S
E A O O U L T R A - G L I D E
L T E R A T S H T A E D Z I I
W A P Y S ' L L E H C T I M K
A C R B V N U V P C D K W H O
T S E N I O R I T Y O V A M O
S R E H S U R C - B M U R C C
O A H Q Z M F T G T R F C Q Q
N E Y C V A W O O L P O O H F
D S F G A R I V T D U Z Y H M

Behindthecouch  Deathstare  SearsCatalogue
Brownbomber    GrandmaSands  Seniority
Byron          High-fidelity  Toddy
Cookies        Mitchell’s    Ultra-glide
Crumb-crushers Peans         Woolpooh
Danielwatson   Pigeon
Crossword Puzzle #2

ACROSS


6. The Magnificent Seven

7. welfare list

8. Big Daddy of love

9. outhouse toilet paper

11. Byron’s mean look

12. drive around record player

14. an excellent reproduction of sound

16. Daddy Cool

17. a privileged status owing to the length of continuous service

Down

1. looks like all the juice has been sucked out

2. the Watson children

3. Collier’s Landing

5. World Famous Watson Pet Hospital

10. Swedish Cremes

13. killed by a Swedish Creme

15. coon dog
Reading Response: Satire

Notes:
Satire is writing that ridicules or makes fun of people’s mistakes and weaknesses. Often the intent is to correct or change the subject of the satiric attack. A satiric essay uses exaggeration, distortion and irony to comment on a subject.

Instructions:
As a satirist, create a satire in the form of a cartoon, based on one chapter from The Watson’s Go to Birmingham-1963. Make fun of how the characters look, what they say and what they do. Your cartoon should have 1-4 frames, with each frame including a balloon with dialogue. It should depict one particular scene from the chapter you have chosen to satirize.

Divide the page below into 1-4 frames and use it as a rough copy only.
Satire: Good Copy
Reading Response: Letter to the Author

Notes:
In a letter to the author, individuals can share their feelings and thoughts about an author's book. Perhaps, individuals can make connections between their own lives and the lives of the characters in the book?

Instructions:
Write a letter to the author, explaining how you have come to read this book. Communicate why certain events in the plot, or the characters, setting etc., are appealing to you. As well, mention anything you may find confusing, or unbelievable and include a quote from the book to support your statements. Finally, thank Mr. Curtis for helping to teach you something that you didn’t know before reading his book. Use the format below to write your letter.

Heading ______________________ (Address)
____________________
____________________
____________________
___________, __________ (Date)

Inside ______________________ (Author’s complete name and address)
Address ______________________
____________________
____________________

Salutation ______________________: (begins with Dear and ends with a colon)

_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________

Close ______________________,
Signature ______________________
Reading Response: Point of View

Notes:
First-Person Point of View: One of the characters is telling the story.
Third-Person Point of View: One character from outside the story is telling it. There are three Third-Person Points of View:
- Unlimited Omniscient- narrator can read the minds of the characters
- Limited Omniscient- narrator can read the mind of one character
- Camera View (objective view): the narrator records the action from a neutral point-of-view; the narrator can write about what the characters are doing, but not what they're thinking

Instructions:
Fill in the chart below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Watson's Go to Birmingham-1963</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is the narrator's point of view?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Reading Response: Foreshadowing

Notes:
Foreshadowing entices readers to turn the page and keep reading. Authors drop hints so readers can predict what will happen next.

Instructions:
Fill in the chart below. Find clues in the novel that may predict what will happen next.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foreshadowing</th>
<th>Clues From the Story</th>
<th>What happened next?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Reading Response: Mood

Notes:
Mood is created through the choice of words and letter sounds, and through the repetition of words, phrases and sentences.

Example:
In the following passage from Theodore Taylor’s novel, The Cay, a lost and lonely mood is created through the author’s choice of words and the description of the setting:

“I looked all around us. There was nothing but blue sea with occasional patches of orange-brown seaweed. No sight of the Hato, or other rafts or boats. Just the sea and a few boats that wheeled over it. That lonely sea, and the sharp pains in my head, and the knowledge that I was here alone with a black man instead of my mother made me break into tears.” (P. 32)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word Sounds</th>
<th>“nothing but blue sea”</th>
<th>“Just the sea and a few boats that wheeled over it.”</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>break</td>
<td>“no sight of the Hato”</td>
<td>“That lonely sea, and the sharp pains in my head, and the knowledge that I was here alone with a black man instead of my mother made me break into tears.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mood:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mood</th>
<th>wheeled</th>
<th>lonely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Word Sounds</td>
<td>break</td>
<td>alone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Words</td>
<td>tears</td>
<td>nothing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Reading Response: Mood (Cont’d)**

**Instructions:**
Referring to the example on the previous page, locate a paragraph in *The Watson’s Go to Birmingham-1963* that illustrates the mood the author is attempting to create. **Quote the paragraph** on the lines provided, and then fill in the chart.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mood</th>
<th>Word Sounds</th>
<th>Words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Phrases</th>
<th>Sentences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Reading Response: Resolution (Denouement)

Notes:
A problem or complication exists in every story that creates conflict. This conflict can be external or internal.

One type of external conflict arises when a main character is in conflict with another character (person vs. person). Another type of external conflict arises when a main character is in conflict with nature (person vs. nature). Person vs. society is where a character has a problem with some element of society such as school, laws or some other accepted way of doing things. At other times a character may be doing battle with uncontrollable problems. If the problem appears to be an unbelievable coincidence, fate can be considered the cause of conflict.

A character may be experiencing internal conflict (person vs. self) and seems to be torn in two different directions. It is possible for a main character to be experiencing more than one type of conflict. By the end of a story, the character facing a conflict succeeds or fails in achieving his/her goal, or solving his/her problem.

The way a conflict is solved is called the resolution. The denouement, or resolution, is the portion of the play or story where the major problem is solved. It comes after the climax and falling action and is intended to bring the story to a satisfactory end. Every conflict has a resolution. Conflict and resolution are part of a story's plot or main action.

Instructions:
To determine whether or not the denouement is satisfactory, explain the complications (conflict) in the story and determine whether each is resolved. Provide direct quotes from the story to identify each conflict. (6-10 sentences in all)
Example Response - Kenny vs. Byron:

At the beginning of the novel it's clear that Byron takes issue with almost everything and everyone, including Kenny. And one cold Saturday morning after their father directs Kenny and Byron outside to scrape the Brown Bomber's windows, inevitably, Byron decides that Kenny can do Byron's work for him.

'I'm not going to do your part, Byron, you'd better do it and I'm not playing either.'

'Shit up, punk...'

I didn't hear any sound coming from the other side of the car so I yelled out, I'm serious, Byron, I'm not doing that side too, and I'm only going to do half the windshield, I don't care what you do to me...'  

'Shit your stupid mouth, I got something more important to do right now.  

The conflict carries on, and on, and... until the end of the novel when everyone grows up ... fast. Perhaps too fast.

Byron vs. the Watson family:

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Explain another conflict in the story.

_________________________ vs. ________________________
The Essay

Notes (Part A):

An essay is a short prose composition that usually deals with one topic in a limited and personal manner. An essay could be an editorial, letter, speech, lecture, sermon, or even hidden as part of a play or novel.

Note the last sentence of the first paragraph contains your thesis statement. This sentence is perhaps the most important sentence of your essay. Your thesis statement might also be referred to as your point of view, or argument. Your thesis is your attitude towards a particular topic. Write your thesis statement as clearly and forcefully as possible.

5 Paragraph Essay

Paragraph 1
General Statement
General Statement
General Statement
General Statement
Thesis Statement

Paragraph 2
Topic Sentence
Example
Support
Support
Concluding Sentence

Paragraph 3
Topic Sentence
Example
Support
Support
Concluding Sentence

Paragraph 4
Topic Sentence
Example
Support
Support
Concluding Sentence

Paragraph 5
Concluding Sentence
Concluding Sentence
Concluding Sentence
Final Concluding Sentence
Notes (Part B):  
Using the format on the previous page, refer to the following information where each heading is concerned on your rough copy:

- **General Statement** - A general statement is a simple **objective** statement about your topic.
- **Topic Sentence** - The topic sentence should **introduce** the paragraph. It contains the main idea of the paragraph.
- **Example** - An example refers to a quote from the source you are using to write your essay. It could be a novel, textbook, internet, etc. You need to use **quotation marks** around the quote although italics is sometimes acceptable.
- **Support** - Support refers to a sentence that clarifies the quote you are using. It **explains** the quote.
- **Concluding Sentence** - The concluding sentence is your **final** word on the topic (the topic of that particular paragraph).

Example:
The paragraph below may serve as an example of a paragraph that contains a **topic sentence**, **example**, **support** and **concluding sentence**. Know too, there could be more than one **support** sentence.

*In the first chapter, Ponyboy notes that Greasers and Socs are easily identified by their lifestyles and by the clothes they wear. “We’re poorer than the Socs and the middle class. I reckon we’re wilder too… I only mean … we wear our hair long and dress in blue jeans and t-shirts, or leave our shirttails out and wear leather jackets and tennis shoes or boots.”*  
Ponyboy goes on to say that neither Socs nor Greasers are better than anyone else; it’s just the way things are. Greasers identify with one style of dressing and Socs with another. It seems to me that Greasers and Socs have a lot more in common than they think.
Instructions:
Choose one of the following essay topics:

1. Time behind the couch is just what Kenny needed.
2. Mr. Watson treated the subject of racial segregation too lightly.
3. Mr. Watson used humor to teach the subject of racial segregation to his children.
4. 
5. 

Use the sheet provided for your rough copy and then write a good copy. Make sure to write in paragraph form. The rough copy must accompany the good.
Rough Copy: 5 Paragraph Essay

Paragraph 1

General Statement
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

General Statement
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

General Statement
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

General Statement
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

Thesis Statement
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

Paragraph 2

Topic Sentence
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
Support


Concluding Sentence


Paragraph 4

Topic Sentence


Example


Support


Support


Concluding Sentence


Paragraph 5

Concluding Sentence
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

Concluding Sentence
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________

Final Concluding Sentence
_________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________
Reading Response: A Dialogue with Kenny

Notes:
When writing dialogue be aware of several considerations:

a. Start a new paragraph every time someone new speaks.

Kenny asked, “You think I'm crazy?”
“Sometimes,” Byron replied.

b. Often, source phrases are understood.

“That doesn’t surprise me.”

c. Single quotation marks are used to indicate a quote within a quote. (If using a word processor, sometimes a different font is used to indicate the quote within a quote.)

“The word ‘crazy’ shouldn’t be confused with ‘hungry’,” Kenny said.

d. The question mark may come outside of the quotation marks when the whole thing is a question, but the quote alone is a statement.

“Did you say ‘I’m hungry’”? Byron asked?

e. When quoting a famous person, use a colon instead of a comma after a source phrase.

Ralph Waldo Emmerson said: “Thought is the blossom; Language the bud; action the fruit behind it.”
Instructions:
Create an imaginary conversation between Kenny and Byron. Kenny is attempting to explain his need to hide behind the couch. Your dialogue should be 200-300 words in length.
### Novel Distribution Record: The Watson’s Go To Birmingham

#### Student

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| 31. | __________________________________ |
| 32. | __________________________________ |

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Answers to Comprehension Questions

Chapter One
1. Because it is very cold and they are trying to warm each other
2. Hambone Henderson
3. Aunt Cidney
4. Clear the windows of ice and snow
5. Got his mouth frozen to the mirror
6. Hot Lips
7. One hand on his chin and one on his forehead and quickly snatches his head away
8. The Lipless Wonder

Chapter Two
1. Larry Dunn
2. Fourth
3. He is a god
4. To demonstrate Kenny’s good reading
5. She hands him the book upside down
6. Lazy eye
7. Kenny thinks that the new boy will be picked on instead of himself
8. Very raggedy

Chapter Three
1. Rufus Fry
2. Half his apple and half his second sandwich
3. He gives it to his younger brother, Cody
4. Because it is fat and does not hide from people
5. LJ keeps stealing his dinosaurs
6. So that he can steal a large number of Kenny’s dinosaurs at one time
7. Because Kenny laughed once at a cruel joke that the other kids played on Rufus
8. Kenny’s mom

Chapter Four
1. Birmingham, Alabama
2. Too warm --- layers and layers of clothing
3. “Why don’t we see any frozen people when we go to school”?
4. They are picked up by the fake garbage truck
5. He gives Rufus one glove
6. The black coloring is coming off the brown gloves
7. Byron
8. The Great Carp Escape

Chapter Five
1. For lighting matches
2. Less than a week
3. Momma intends to burn Byron to teach him a lesson
4. To protect Byron
5. Five times
6. It is too dangerous to play with fire
7. Daddy

Chapter Six
1. Some milk, a loaf of bread and a small tin of tomato paste
2. He doesn’t need money. All that he has to do is sign his name
3. He takes them from Kenny at the doorstep and carries them into the house
4. Powdered milk
5. Byron, eating store bought cookies
6. He hit it with a cookie and knocked it to the ground
7. Maybe the sight of the dead bird along with the green apples and the cookies
8. He buries it where it died

Chapter Seven
1. He has had his hair died and straightened
2. Reddish brown
3. To wash the color out of his hair
4. He shaves Byron’s head
5. Clean the bathroom
6. Grandma Sands in Alabama

Chapter Eight
1. The Brown Bomber
2. A green pine tree to hang on the rear view mirror
3. Because Byron tried to brush his teeth
4. He wants everyone to come outside to see what he has bought for the Brown Bomber
5. A record player
6. The Vibro-Dynamic-Lateral-Anti-Inertial-Dampening system
7. To leave Byron with Grandma Sands for a while as punishment for all the things that he has been doing wrong
8. Three days

Chapter Nine
1. Because Kenny will miss Byron
2. So that Byron can get an idea of the kind of place the world can be
3. “Is it too late to get ‘Yakety-Yak’?
4. The angel is white
5. Joey told them that he was going to run away so that he would not have to go with them next morning
6. Cincinnati
7. He won’t say a word for three days

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8. Because he bugged Byron more than Byron bugged him

Chapter Ten
1. A house is a lot nicer place if the facilities are outside
2. Joey drools when she sleeps
3. "I'll just stretch and get some gas and go a little further"
4. In the appellation mountains
5. A hillbilly
6. "Like God's beard and we're tickling him"

Chapter Eleven
1. "You too Kenny"?
2. Country and Western
3. Squares
4. 'A teeny-weeny old, old woman that looked just like Momma would if someone shrank her down about five sizes and sucked all the juice out of her'
5. She doesn't even have to look down to see him
6. Mr. Robert
7. Old as dirt

Chapter Twelve
1. Toddy
2. A coon dog
3. A raccoon held him under water
4. Mouth to nose resuscitation
5. Cereal, bread and bacon
6. Almost twenty years
7. To show them the best fishing spots

Chapter Thirteen
1. A whirlpool
2. Collier's Landing
3. Because he didn't want to share his lake with anyone
4. The knots wouldn't come out of his shoes
5. To catch a turtle
6. To set him down the shore beside his shoes
7. Byron dragged him out

Chapter Fourteen
1. He heard Joetta getting ready for Sunday school
2. A thunderous noise
3. Somebody dropped a bomb on Joey's church
4. The Wool Pooh
5. So that she can say "goodbye" to every one before she is gone forever
6. She thinks that he is teasing her
7. She slept through all the noise

Chapter Fifteen
1. Behind the couch
2. Mr. Robert’s friend
3. Never
4. To show him a whisker that is coming on his chin
5. Because he thinks that he left Joey at the church
6. “You getting the word from the top wolf hisself”
The Watsons...Birmingham #2

16 C
10 BROWN BOMBER
14 U E
18 PEONS
22 MITCHELL'S
26 I P
30 - DANIEL WATSON
34 C D O
38 SEARS CATALOGUE
42 H O
46 N S T A R E
50 C K
54 O I
58 ULTRA-GLIDE
62 S C
66 HIGH-FIDELITY
70 E D
74 O D
78 N S E N I O R I T Y

BYRON

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