

Lesson One - Worksheet

This lesson coincides with a diary entry dated July 20, 2018 from “Diary of Emotions: Thoughts and Feelings”. The purpose of this lesson is to analyze the main character’s feelings and emotions after the main event took place.

Entry Date: July 20, 2018

Main Idea and Supporting Details

Place an “X” on the line beside the “main idea” of the story.

- _____ Grace has accepted that her mother has a mental illness.
- _____ Grace cannot understand how a mother can abandon her children.
- _____ Grace wants to provide for and take care of her mother.

The four statements below “support” the main idea. Fill in the blanks with the correct word.

- (a) Even though her mother left, Grace had completely _____ her.
- (b) For years, Grace did not _____ her mother for leaving her and her siblings.
- (c) However, Grace finds it hard to _____ how a mother could not want to be close to her children.
- (d) It hurts Grace that her mother has _____ to the point where she does not want her children.

Plot Analysis: Internal Conflict

In a story, an internal conflict is a battle taking place within the mind of a character. This is also referred to as the “man vs. self” conflict.

In this diary entry, we see Grace having an internal conflict regarding her mother.

Which statement shows Grace’s internal conflict? Circle the letter for the correct one.

- (a) It is weird that my mother can leave me and I can still forgive her.
- (b) A part of me wants to do things for her all the time, to take care of her.
- (c) Still, I do not know how to feel about her.
- (d) I know she was not capable of raising us....it still makes me want to accuse her of something.

Analyzing Characters and Incidents

In the boxes below, write three different lines from the diary entry that show Grace is saddened by her mother rejecting her.

Identifying Cause and Effect

“Seeing that she does not want to be with us, I feel like I should place some of the blame on her.”

What is the Cause? _____

What is the Effect? _____

Drawing Conclusions

Read the following statement from the diary entry and choose the best conclusion for it.

“Like if I do not call her, we do not talk. If I stopped calling her, I would never hear from her again, even though she has my phone number. Then again, it may be for the best.”

- (a) Grace feels that her mother does not want to talk to her at all.
- (b) Grace feels hurt that her mother does not get in touch on her own, but accepts it.
- (c) Grace knows that her mother has a mental illness, but does not understand the reason for her mother’s shyness.
- (d) Grace is angry with her mother for not calling on her own even though she has their phone numbers.

Character Trait Discussion

The Character Trait for Lesson One is “forgiving”.

Forgiving means being ready and willing to forgive.

Read the statement below. Then choose one of the questions below and answer it. Write your answer in the space provided then discuss it with your group.

In this diary entry, we see Grace's forgiving side as she says she had forgiven her mother for years.

1. Would you forgive someone who left you ages ago and reunited with them again? Why or why not?
2. Describe a situation where you had to forgive someone, or where you were the one seeking forgiveness.
3. Do you think it is difficult for some people to forgive? Why or why not.

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