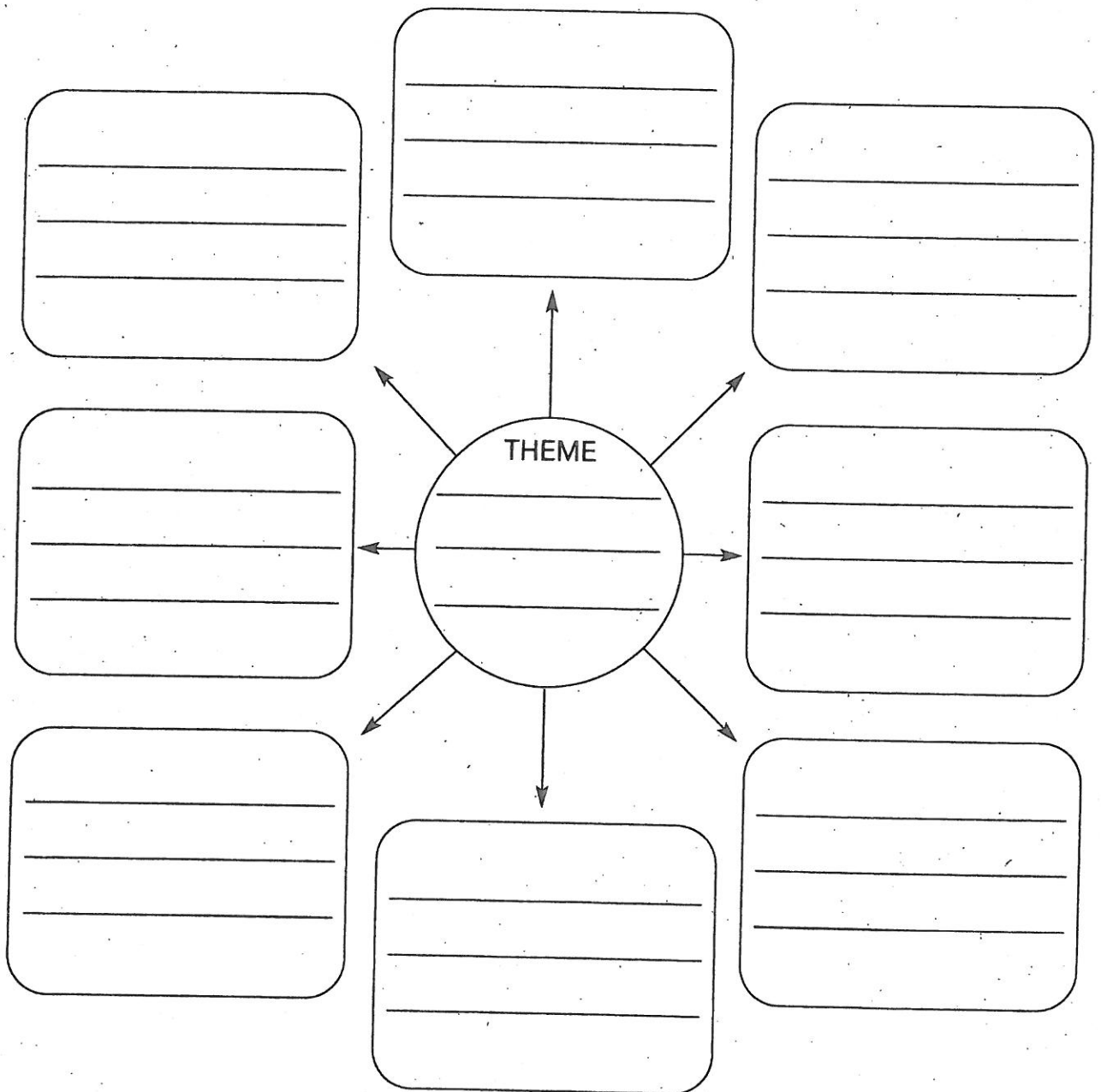


"Ribbons" by Laurence Yep
"The Treasure of Lemon Brown" by Walter Dean Myers

Literary Analysis: Theme

The **theme** of a story is its central underlying message, usually about life or human nature. A theme is sometimes stated directly, but more often it is suggested through the title, the words and experiences of the characters, the events and conflict in the story, and other details. For example, if a person in a story overcomes great obstacles to win a race, the theme might be the importance of determination in accomplishing goals.

DIRECTIONS: Complete this diagram for either "Ribbons" or "The Treasure of Lemon Brown." In the center circle, write what you see as the theme of the story. In the boxes, write details that led you to this conclusion.



Name _____

Date _____

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Reading Strategy: Ask Questions

One way to get more out of what you read is to stop from time to time and ask questions about it. For example, you might ask why a character does something, says something, or wants something. You also might ask why the author gives you certain details. As you read "Ribbons" and "The Treasure of Lemon Brown," fill out these charts. A sample question has been given for each story.

"Ribbons"	
Question	Answer
Why does Ian rush to the window?	He's expecting his grandmother.

"The Treasure of Lemon Brown"	
Question	Answer
Why is Greg in such a bad mood?	His father won't let him play ball unless his math grade improves.

A PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE BEGINS WITH A PREPOSITION AND ENDS WITH A NOUN OR PRONOUN. That noun or pronoun is called the object of the preposition.

to the store (Store is the object of the preposition.)
with me (Me is the object of the preposition.)

Sometimes the preposition will have compound objects. This means that there will be two or more nouns or pronouns following the preposition.

to the store and post* office (Store and office are objects of the
preposition.)

*Note that you include only the noun (office);
the describing word is not part of the object
of the preposition.

with John and me (John and me are objects of the preposition.)

Name _____

PREPOSITIONS

Date _____

Directions: Cross out any prepositional phrases. Underline the subject once and the verb twice.

1. After school we walked to the library.
2. Mary sits behind you in science class.
3. The plane flew above the clouds.
4. Jane lives across the street from me.
5. Down the road galloped the horse.
6. We went to the beach.
7. Some boys crawled under the car.
8. The pump is behind the barn.
9. They stopped along the road for five minutes.
10. During skiing season our family went to a lodge for a weekend.
11. The cars travel below the river and through the tunnel.
12. The telephone rang in the middle of the night.
13. Below the sink is the garbage can.
14. Everyone except Mary left by noon.
15. Within ten minutes of the call, my dad arrived in our driveway.