

# **"SHORT STORY HOMEWORK #3"**

The answers to this should be **written in your notebook** using the title listed above and today's date.

Choose just **ONE** of the following options for your homework. Label which option you choose. Each **EXTRA** option you choose to do does gain you **THREE B POINTS**. Doing all 12 questions in option 1 earns one extra B point.

## **OPTION ONE: ANSWER THE QUESTIONS**

Answer any **TEN** of the following **TWELVE** questions using **complete sentences**.

### **THE ZOO**

1. Explain **WHY** the **SETTING** is important to this story.
2. Explain how the title of this story connects to the plot.
3. Explain the **RESOLUTION** of this story.
4. How does this story demonstrate **IRONY**?
5. Describe the character of Professor Hugo.
6. What is the best **IN**ternal conflict and why is it important?

### **CHEERLEADER NON-FICTION**

7. What are **TWO FACTS** the author uses to prove cheerleading is a sport?
8. What is an example of **AN OPINION** in the article?

### **MAGIC LENS**

9. Give an example of a sentence correctly using a **CONJUNCTION**.
10. Give an example of a sentence correctly using a **TWO** different **PRONOUNS**.

### **THE NECKLACE**

11. Describe the character Mathilda. What personality information do we learn in the **EXPOSITION**?
12. How does this story demonstrate **IRONY**?

## **OPTION TWO: ALPHABET PHRASE HW**

You need to **USE** the following **ELEVEN** letters of the alphabet for this assignment **I-R-O-N-I-C—A-L-I-E-N**. Use only these **ELEVEN** letters, and in that order. Each letter will **BEGIN** a phrase that **DESCRIBES** one of the **STORIES** we read. If you have trouble, then make the letter in the middle of the word. That's ok.

Each **PHRASE** (you don't need complete sentences, just **COMPLETE THOUGHTS**) must have **no FEWER than 6 words** (this is where most kids will mess up), **and NO MORE than 10 words**.

You need to come up with **COMPLETE IDEA** phrases describing the stories listed below. **Each story** you use **MUST** have at least **THREE LINES** written about it. Use the stories listed below this.

**NUMBER** and **LABEL** each **one** you do, so we know which stories each line refers to.

Examples:

1. **A** person thinks that they are unpopular
2. **B**anishing them is what the populars will do
3. **C**an little girls find happiness at the beach?

**1. THE NECKLACE**

**2. THE ZOO**

**3. CHEERLEADER NONFICTION**

## **OPTION THREE: TAPE IN YOUR QUIZ**

If you score a **21** or higher on Short Story Quiz 3, then you may choose to just tape that quiz in to your notebook on the Short Story HW page instead of answering questions. Use at least **FOUR pieces of clear tape** and the tape must be on the **four corners**. You may **NOT** use glue, duct tape or any other adhesive. You must have **your OWN tape for this**. Borrowing = getting banned. :-/

If you choose this option and forget to do it by the due date, then the homework is considered late and this option becomes **VOID**.

## **OPTION FOUR: SEVEN ELEMENTS**

You may use **EITHER** the **THE ZOO** story or the **NECKLACE** story for this, **BUT** you must pick **ONE** and stick with it for **ALL** elements. You may **NOT** use any other story we have read.

You will need to explain the **SEVEN ELEMENTS** of a short story using the story listed. There are **NINE PARTS** to this option. You **MUST** use **COMPLETE SENTENCES**.

1. Explain **TWO characters** and **why** they are important.
2. **Explain TWO** important parts of the **setting**.
3. Briefly explain the **plot in two sentences**.
4. **Explain** the **Point of View** for the story.
5. **Explain** a **THEME** that would work well for it.
6. **Explain** an **IMPORTANT IN**ternal conflict.
7. **Explain** why the **EX**ternal conflict is important here
8. **Explain** the **CLIMAX** of the story.
9. **Explain ONE OTHER Plot Mountain** part of the story.

# Zoo

-Edward D Hoch

The children were always good during the month of August, especially when it began to get near the twenty-third. It was on this day that the great silver spaceship carrying Professor Hugo's Interplanetary Zoo settled down for its annual six-hour visit to the Chicago area.

Before daybreak the crowds would form, long lines of children and adults both, each one clutching his or her dollar, and waiting with wonderment to see what race of strange creatures the Professor had brought this year.

In the past they had sometimes been treated to three-legged creatures from Venus, or tall, thin men from Mars, or even snake-like horrors from somewhere more distant. This year, as the great round ship settled slowly to earth in the huge tri-city parking area just outside of Chicago, they watched with awe as the sides slowly slid up to reveal the familiar barred cages. In them were some wild breed of nightmare--small, horse-like animals that moved with quick, jerking motions and constantly chattered in a high-pitched tongue. The citizens of Earth clustered around as Professor Hugo's crew quickly collected the waiting dollars, and soon the good Professor himself made an appearance, wearing his many-colored rainbow cape and top hat. "Peoples of Earth," he called into his microphone.

The crowd's noise died down and he continued. "Peoples of Earth, this year you see a real treat for your single dollar--the little-known horse-spider people of Kaan--brought to you across a million miles of space at great expense. Gather around, see them, study them, listen to them, tell your friends about them. But hurry! My ship can remain here only six hours!

And the crowds slowly filed by, at once horrified and fascinated by these strange creatures that looked like horses but ran up the walls of their cages like spiders. "This is certainly worth a dollar," one man remarked, hurrying away. "I'm going home to get the wife."

All day long it went like that, until ten thousand people had filed by the barred cages set into the side of the spaceship. Then, as the six-hour limit ran out, Professor Hugo once more took microphone in hand. "We must go now, but we will return next year on this date. And if you enjoyed our zoo this year, phone your friends in other cities about it. We will land in New York tomorrow, and next week on to London, Paris, Rome, Hong Kong, and Tokyo. Then on to other worlds!

He waved farewell to them, and as the ship rose from the ground the Earth peoples agreed that this had been the very best Zoo yet. . . .

In one, the she-creature was happy to see the return of her mate and offspring. She babbled a greeting in the strange tongue and hurried to embrace them. "It was a long time you were gone. Was it good?"

And the he-creature nodded. "The little one enjoyed it especially. We visited eight worlds and saw many things."

The little one ran up the wall of the cave. "On the place called Earth it was the best. The creatures there wear garments over skins, and they walk on two legs."

"But isn't it dangerous?" asked the she-creature.

“No,” her mate answered. “There are bars to protect us from them. We remain right in the ship. Next time you must come with us. It is well worth the nineteen commocs it costs.”

And the little one nodded. “It was the very best Zoo ever. . . .”

### **NON-FICTION ARTICLE for this week**

## **Cheerleading is a Sport**

By Renee R., Arlington Heights, IL

The New York Times states that cheerleading is the fastest growing girls’ sport, yet more than half of Americans do not believe it qualifies as one. In addition, they fail to distinguish between sideline cheerleaders and competitive ones. Sideline cheerleaders’ main goal is to entertain the crowd and lead them with team cheers, which should not be considered a sport. On the other hand, competitive cheerleading is a sport.

A sport, according to the Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors, is a “physical activity [competition] against/with an opponent, governed by rules and conditions under which a winner is declared, and primary purpose of the competition is a comparison of the relative skills of the participants.” Because cheerleading follows these guidelines, it is a sport.

Competitive cheerleading includes lots of physical activity. Like gymnasts, cheerleaders must learn to tumble. They perform standing back flips, round flip flops, and full layout twists. Cheerleaders also perform lifts and tosses. This is where the “fliers” are thrown in the air, held by “bases” in different positions that require strength and cooperation with other teammates.

Just as basketball and football have guidelines for competitive play, so does competitive cheerleading. The whole routine has to be completed in less than three minutes and 15 seconds and the cheerleaders are required to stay within a certain pre-marked area.

Competitive cheerleaders’ goal is to be the best. Just like gymnasts, they are awarded points for difficulty, technique, creativity and sharpness. The more difficult a mount or a stunt, the sharper and more in-sync the motions, the better the score. Cheerleading is a team sport so without cooperation and synchronization, first place is out of reach.

According to the National Center for Catastrophic Sport Injury Research, cheerleading is the number-one cause of serious sports injuries to women. Emergency room visits for cheerleading are five times the number than for any other sport, partially because they do not wear protective gear. While many athletes are equipped with hip pads, knee pads, shin guards or helmets, smiling cheerleaders are tossed into the air and spiral down into the arms of trusted teammates. The fliers must remain tight at all times so that their bases can catch them safely. Also, because cheerleading is not yet recognized as a sport by many schools, neither proper matting nor high enough ceilings are provided to ensure safety. Instead, the girls use whatever space is available. More recognition of competitive cheerleading as a sport would decrease the number of injuries.

So why do many Americans not think cheerleading is a sport? It shouldn’t be because cheerleaders do not use balls or manipulate objects (if you are not counting megaphones,

pompoms and signs as objects). Wrestling, swimming, diving, track, cross-country, gymnastics, ice-skating and boxing are recognized sports that do not use balls. Some people argue that cheerleaders are just “flirts in skirts” with their only job to entertain the crowd, but cheerleaders today compete against other squads and work just as hard as any other athlete.

Competitive cheerleading is a sport. It is a physical activity that is governed by rules under which a winner can be declared and its primary purpose is to compare the skills of participants. Hopefully, cheerleading will become as well-known a sport as football and basketball, and even appear in the Olympics since cheerleaders are just as athletic and physically fit as those involved in the more accepted sports.

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