



What Is A True Friend?

Suggested time: 2 Hours

What's important in this lesson:

- Understanding the difference between a good friend and a bad friend.
- Reading a short story and understanding the problems of the characters and how they are solved.
- Pretending to be a character from the story and writing as if you were that person.
- Understanding how problems are solved (or sometimes aren't)

Complete these steps:

1. Read the short story that your teacher gives you.
2. Fill in the graphic organizer.
3. Complete the character chart for the two main characters.
4. Answer the questions on the question/answer handout.
5. Write a creative response as one of the main characters.

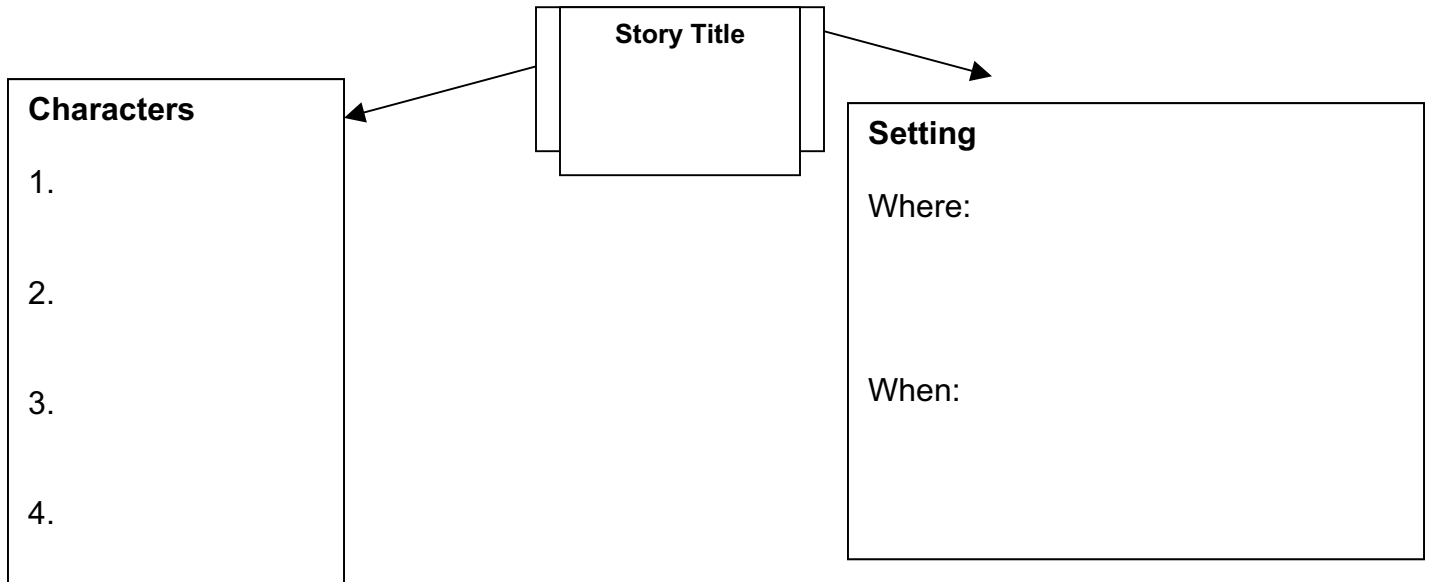
Hand in the following to your teacher:

- Graphic Organizer
- Character Chart
- Question/Answer sheet
- Creative Response

Questions for the teacher:



Graphic Organizer – Short Story



Problems and Solutions	
Character 1's Problem	How Is It Solved?
Character 2's Problem	How Is It Solved?
Character 3's Problem	How Is It Solved?
Character 4's Problem	How Is It Solved?



Generic Character Chart – Short Story

For each of the two main characters in the story, find three quotations that tell the reader what kind of person each character is. The quotations can be something the character says, or something that another character says about him or her. After each quotation, put the speaker's name in brackets. Then, explain in your own words what the quotation reveals about the character.

Quotation	Character One	Character Two
<p>Example</p> <p>Character Trait Revealed</p>	<p>“Why did you make me drop my MP3 player? Now it’s broken and it’s your fault!”</p> <p>Character One blames other people for her mistakes</p>	<p>“Without Josh as my friend, I’d have been a nobody. That’s why I hung around him.”</p> <p>Character Two uses other people to get ahead.</p>
<p>Quotation 1</p> <p>Character Trait Revealed</p>		
<p>Quotation 2</p> <p>Character Trait Revealed</p>		
<p>Quotation 3</p> <p>Character Trait Revealed</p>		



Creative Response
to “Golden Girl”, by Gillian Chan

Choose one of the following options and write a creative response of at least half a page in length:

- a) You are Anna. Michael has told you some of the things that Donna has said about you. Write a diary entry describing your feelings when you discovered that she didn't act like a true friend. What are you going to do when you see her again? Will you confront her or simply walk away from the relationship?

- b) You are Michael. You are upset by the way that Anna, your supposed girlfriend has been acting, and you can't believe how disloyal her best friend has been. Write an email to your friend Doug discussing the events of the last few days and what you plan to do about your relationships with both girls.

- c) You are Donna. How has seeing Anna crying in the coffeeshop affected you? Do you still secretly dislike Anna or have you changed your feelings towards her? It's a few days later and you have to write a journal for Mrs. Grainger's English class about what it means to be a good friend. Do you lie in your journal or tell the truth about what kind of friend you've been to Anna?



Generic Question Sheet for a Short Story

- 1) Describe the setting of the story.

- 2) How is the setting important to the story?

- 3) Describe the relationship between the main characters in the story.

- 4) How does the main character change from the beginning to the end of the story?

- 5) What is the central theme (message or moral) of the story?

Creative Response

You are the main character in the story. Write a diary entry about the events in the story, with a focus on the relationships between you and your friends. Describe how the relationships changed, and explain why you think the changes happened. How would you have dealt with the situation differently? What are your plans for the future?