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LITERATURE
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- Supports mainstreamed students

WORLD LITERATURE

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"A Power Struggle" by Bessie Head (text page 131)

Summary In this story, set in precolonial Southern Africa, two brothers of the Tlabina clan, Davhana and Baeli, compete for power. Davhana had been designated as the future ruler of the clan by the brothers' father, the old chief. However, when the chief dies, Baeli challenges Davhana's authority. A wise old man warns Davhana that he must, if necessary, kill his brother. Baeli continues to challenge Davhana. Eventually, Baeli murders his brother's supporters, although Davhana himself escapes. The people acknowledge Baeli as their leader. Yet after several months, on learning where Davhana is, they leave in small groups to rejoin him. By the end of the story, Baeli has been abandoned.

Resumen En este cuento, que tiene lugar en la Sudáfrica colonial, dos hermanos del clan Tlabina, Davhana y Baeli, se disputan el poder. Davhana ha sido designado como el futuro jefe del clan por el padre de los hermanos, el viejo jefe. Sin embargo, cuando el jefe muere, Baeli desafía la autoridad de Davhana. Un viejo sabio advierte a Davhana que, si es necesario, él debe matar a su hermano. Baeli sigue desafiando a Davhana. Eventualmente, Baeli asesina a los que apoyan a su hermano, aunque Davhana logra escapar. La gente acepta a Baeli como su líder. Sin embargo, después de varios meses, al saber dónde se encuentra Davhana, ellos parten en pequeños grupos para agruparse de nuevo junto a él. Al final del cuento, Baeli ha sido abandonado.

Identify Character Traits The personalities of the two brothers are very different in "A Power Struggle." Describe each of the brothers in the space provided, and then tell which one you think would make the better ruler of the clan and why.

Davhana _____

Baeli _____

Which brother would make the better ruler of the clan? Why?

"The Final Assault" by Edmund Hillary (text page 142)

"The Dream Comes True" by Tenzing Norgay (text page 154)

Summary In separate autobiographical accounts, Hillary and Norgay describe what it was like to be the first to climb Mt. Everest. In "The Final Assault," Hillary tells of their struggle against the elements in the bone-chilling cold. He describes how he came to Norgay's aid, helping him clear his ice-filled oxygen tubes and pulling him up a slope. In "The Dream Comes True," Norgay provides his version of events. He says that he helped Hillary as much as Hillary helped him, and that the two of them worked as a team. Even though Hillary reached the top first, Norgay says he was just a few steps behind.

Resumen En contrastantes relatos autobiográficos, Hillary y Norgay describen el primer ascenso al Monte Everest. En *The Final Assault* Hillary cuenta su lucha contra los elementos en el frío tremendo. Narra cómo socorrió a Norgay, ayudándolo a sacar el hielo que llenaba sus tubos de oxígeno y empujándolo en la subida. En *The Dream Comes True*, Norgay da su versión de los hechos. Dice que Hillary y él se ayudaron mutuamente uno tanto como el otro y que los dos trabajaron en equipo. Aunque el primero en llegar a la cumbre fue Hillary, Norgay alega que él estaba sólo unos pasos atrás de su compañero.

Outline Main Idea and Supporting Details Hillary and Norgay give different accounts of certain events during their climb. In the selection find one fact on which they disagree and the paragraph in each account where that event is discussed. In the space provided, write the main idea and supporting details that appear in each of those paragraphs.

"The Final Assault"

Main idea: _____

Supporting details:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

"The Dream Comes True"

Main idea: _____

Supporting details:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

“House Taken Over” by Julio Cortázar (text page 164)**“The Bridegroom”** by Alexander Pushkin (text page 170)

Summary “House Taken Over” tells about a brother and sister who live in their family’s spacious old house in Buenos Aires, Argentina. One night, the brother hears something unexplained in the library or dining room. He seals off that part of the house. On another night, he hears a noise in the lived-in part of the house. He and his sister abandon the house to the unknown invaders. In the poem “The Bridegroom,” a young woman goes along with an arranged marriage in order to reveal that the groom was involved in a horrible crime. At the wedding, she discloses that her wedding ring belongs to a young girl who was murdered by the bridegroom. The groom is arrested.

Resumen “House Taken Over” cuenta sobre un hermano y una hermana que viven en la antigua y espaciosa casa de la familia en Buenos Aires, Argentina. Una noche el hermano oye algo en la biblioteca o el comedor que no puede explicar. Él cierra esa parte de la casa. Otra noche oye un ruido en la parte de la casa donde viven. Él y su hermana abandonan la casa y se la dejan al invasor desconocido. En el poema “The Bridegroom”, una mujer joven acepta un matrimonio arreglado por otros con el propósito de revelar que el novio estuvo involucrado en un crimen horrendo. Durante la boda, ella revela que su anillo pertenece a una joven que fue asesinada por el novio. Al novio lo arrestan.

Recognize Cause and Effect A cause is the action or event that produces another event. An effect is the result of an action or event. Fill in the missing causes and effects in the following chart on the basis of the information provided in the two stories.

“House Taken Over”

Cause	Effect
The narrator hears something in the library or the dining room.	
	The narrator is not able to sleep.
They hear noises in the kitchen or the bath.	

“The Bridegroom”

Cause	Effect
	Natasha shudders when her father tells the matchmaker that she will marry the mysterious young man.
At the wedding, Natasha asks her bridegroom, “And from whose hand does this ring come?”	

from "A Walk to the Jetty" from *Annie John* by Jamaica Kincaid (text page 178)

Summary In this autobiographical novel, Kincaid describes a young girl who is about to leave the island on which she grew up. As she walks to the dock where she will board a boat to England, she sees many things that bring back childhood memories. Some of the memories are good, others are not. Through her accounts of childhood experiences, she recalls how her mother praised her for her independence. After a tearful goodbye to her mother and father, the young girl begins her journey to adulthood.

Resumen En esta novela autobiográfica, Kincaid describe a una joven que se apresta a dejar la isla donde creció. En camino al muelle donde se va a embarcar para Inglaterra ve muchas cosas que le traen a la mente recuerdos de la infancia. Algunos son positivos, pero otros no lo son. Analizando las experiencias de su niñez recuerda cómo su madre la elogiaba por su independencia. Después de despedirse de sus padres con lágrimas en los ojos, la joven emprender el viaje hacia su vida adulta.

Identify Characters If the young girl, mother, and father in this story were actual people, how would you describe them to someone who had never met them? Choose three qualities that you would use to describe each.

Young girl

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Mother

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Father

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

from *Night* by Elie Wiesel (text page 190)

Summary Toward the end of World War II, the young man who is the narrator and his father are among a group of Jews transported to Buchenwald concentration camp by the Nazis. Guards herd them into the barracks, and the narrator is separated from his exhausted father. Next day, the narrator discovers his father ill with dysentery. He tries to help his father but also is tempted to abandon him—a temptation for which he is ashamed. He can neither protect his father from fellow inmates nor get the doctors to help his father. After a Nazi officer strikes the father with a club, the father almost dies and is taken away in the night to be burnt in the crematorium. Months later, the Americans come to liberate the camp.

Resumen Hacia finales de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, el joven que es el narrador y su padre se encuentran entre un grupo de judíos que los nazis transportan al campo de concentración Buchenwald. Los guardias los apiñan unos contra otros en los dormitorios y el narrador queda separado de su exhausto padre. Al día siguiente el narrador descubre que su padre está enfermo con disentería. Trata de ayudarlo, pero también tiene la tentación de abandonarlo —una tentación que lo avergüenza. Él ni puede proteger a su padre de los otros prisioneros ni conseguir un médico que lo atienda. Después que un oficial nazi golpea a su padre con una porra, el padre casi se muere y por la noche se lo llevan para quemarlo en el crematorio. Meses más tarde, los americanos llegan y liberan el campamento.

Analyze Author's Purpose Elie Wiesel was a prisoner in Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland and later in Buchenwald. In *Night*, he describes his experiences. In the space provided, tell what the author's purpose was in writing *Night*. Give specific examples from the text.

"Fear" by Gabriela Mistral (text page 202)

"The street" by Octavio Paz (text page 203)

"Cristobal Miranda" by Pablo Neruda (text page 204)

Summary In "Fear," the speaker expresses love for her daughter and fear for what her daughter's future may hold. The speaker does not want her daughter to become a swallow because she will fly away; or a princess because she could not play; or a queen because she could not visit her. In "The street," the speaker walks in darkness, fearing that someone is following him. In "Cristobal Miranda," the poet writes a tribute to a Chilean nitrate worker whom he met. He describes how this man and his fellow workers on the barges performed the dangerous job of shoveling sodium nitrate.

Resumen En "Fear" la narradora expresa amor por su hija y temor por lo que a ella le pueda esperar en el futuro. La narradora no quiere que su hija se convierta en una golondrina, porque se iría volando; tampoco una princesa porque no podría jugar; ni una reina porque no la podría visitar. En "The street", el narrador camina en la oscuridad con el temor de que alguien le está siguiendo. En "Cristóbal Miranda" el poeta escribe un tributo a un trabajador de nitrato chileno que él conoció. Describe cómo este hombre y sus compañeros de trabajo en las barcazas llevan a cabo el peligroso trabajo de palear nitrato de sodio.

Restate Poetry as Prose To make poems easier to understand, it is sometimes helpful to rewrite them as prose. In the space provided, rewrite the following two stanzas. Use complete sentences and standard punctuation to convey the meaning of each stanza.

"The street"

Everything dark and doorless.
Turning and turning among these corners
which lead forever to the street
where nobody waits for, nobody follows me,
where I pursue a man who stumbles
and rises and says when he sees me: nobody

"Cristobal Miranda"

Snow of the nitrates, poured
over painful shoulders, dropping
into the blind stomach of the ships.
Shovelers there, heroes of a sunrise
eaten away by acids, and bound
to the destinies of death, standing firm,
taking in the floods of nitrate.

“Two Friends” by Guy de Maupassant (text page 210)

Summary “Two Friends” describes two men living in Paris during the Franco-Prussian War. The men had become fast friends by fishing together for many years. Now, despite the war, the two men risk leaving the city to go on a fishing expedition. However, they are captured by Prussian soldiers. A Prussian officer threatens to execute them as spies and demands that they give him the password needed to cross the French lines. The Frenchmen refuse, even when the officer confronts each of them separately. They die together, executed by a firing squad.

Resumen “Two Friends” describe a dos hombres que viven en París durante la guerra Franco-Prusiana. Los hombres se han vuelto muy buenos amigos porque durante muchos años han pescando juntos. Ahora, a pesar de la guerra, los dos hombres se arriesgan a abandonar la ciudad para ir a una expedición de pesca. Sin embargo, son capturados por soldados prusianos. Un oficial prusiano amenaza con ejecutarlos por espías y demanda que le den la palabra clave necesaria para cruzar las líneas francesas. Los franceses se niegan, inclusive cuando el oficial enfrenta a cada uno por separado. Mueren juntos, ejecutados por un pelotón de fusilamiento.

Identify a Chain of Events In this story, the tension continues to rise toward a climax. In the following chain-of-events organizer, track the main events. Then draw a star beside each event that marks the climax of the story.

Event 1



Event 2



Event 3



Event 4



Event 5

“Damon and Pythias” retold by William F. Russell (text page 224)
from the *Iliad*, Book XXII “The Death of Hektor” by Homer (text page 228)

Summary “Damon and Pythias” is a myth about two devoted friends. When Pythias is sentenced to death, Damon serves as a hostage until Pythias can settle his affairs. Although Pythias returns at the last possible moment, Damon is confident that he will return. The friends’ devotion inspires the ruler who imposed the sentence to pardon Pythias. “The Death of Hektor,” from Homer’s *Iliad*, describes a climactic moment of the Trojan War. Hektor, the greatest Trojan warrior, has killed Patroklos, the best friend of the great Greek warrior Achilles. Now, Achilles seeks to kill Hektor in revenge. Hektor flees from him around the walls of Troy. Then, deceived by the goddess Athene, Hektor fights and is killed.

Resumen “Damon and Pythias” es un mito sobre dos amigos leales. Cuando a Pitias lo sentencian a muerte, Damón sirve de rehén para que Pitias pueda poner sus asuntos en orden. Aunque Pitias no regresa hasta el último momento posible, Damón tiene confianza en que regresará. La lealtad del amigo inspira al gobernante que impuso la sentencia a perdonar a Pitias. “The Death of Hektor”, tomado de la *Iliada* de Homero, describe un momento climático en la guerra de Troya. Héctor, el más grande guerrero de Troya, ha dado muerte a Patroclo, el mejor amigo del gran guerrero griego Aquiles. Ahora, en venganza, Aquiles quiere dar muerte a Héctor. Héctor huye de él por las murallas de Troya. Entonces, la diosa Atenea lo engaña, Héctor pelea y muere.

Understand an Epic Poem Homeric epics, such as “The Death of Hektor,” share a number of characteristics. Explain or give examples of how this story demonstrates the characteristics of an epic.

A beginning that states the subject of the poem and calls on the help of the Muses _____

A plot that starts in the middle of matters _____

The use of stock epithets, phrases used repeatedly to refer to a thing or person _____

from *The Burning of Rome from the Annals* by Tacitus (text page 246)

Summary This account, from the *Annals* by Tacitus, describes the great fire that destroyed much of Rome in A.D. 64. Tacitus describes the course of the fire and the devastation it wrought on human life and property. He also mentions rumors that the emperor Nero engaged in amateur theatricals while the fire raged and that he himself started the fire. To counter such rumors and to distract the populace, Nero staged public executions of Christians. However, these punishments only further convinced people of Nero's brutality. By the end of the year, rumors of future misfortunes circulated in Rome.

Resumen Este relato, de los Anales de Tácito, describe el gran incendio que destruyó gran parte de Roma en el año 64 A.D. Tácito describe el curso del fuego y la devastación que produjo en vida humana y propiedad. También menciona los rumores de que el emperador Nerón se entretenía en actividades teatrales mientras el fuego ardía y de que él mismo fue el que prendió el fuego. Para contrarrestar tales rumores y distraer a la plebe, Nerón organizó ejecuciones públicas de cristianos. Sin embargo, estos castigos convencieron aún más al pueblo de la brutalidad de Nerón. Para fines del año, los rumores de desgracias futuras circulaban por Roma.

Paraphrase When it is difficult to understand the meaning of a phrase or sentence, it sometimes helps to reword, or paraphrase, it. In your own words, paraphrase the following passages from *The Burning of Rome*.

1. Breaking out in shops selling inflammable goods, and fanned by the wind, the conflagration instantly grew and swept the whole length of the Circus.

2. For a rumor had spread that, while the city was burning, Nero had gone on his private stage and, comparing modern calamities with ancient, had sung of the destruction of Troy.

3. All the splendor of the rebuilt city did not prevent the older generation from remembering those irreplaceable objects.

4. Its wonders were not so much customary and commonplace luxuries like gold and jewels, but lawns and lakes and faked rusticity—woods here, open spaces and views there.

"Half a Day" by Naguib Mahfouz (text page 265)

Summary "Half a Day" begins as the narrator, a young boy, reluctantly accompanies his father to the first day of school. Once at school, the narrator makes friends, learns new things, and gets used to the school routine. At the end of the school day, the narrator expects to find his father waiting for him. However, when the narrator leaves the school, he cannot recognize the bustling, dirty city that surrounds him. Then, a young man calls him "Grandpa" and offers to help him cross the street.	Resumen "Half a Day" comienza cuando el narrador, un niño pequeño, acompaña de mala gana a su padre el primer día que va a la escuela. Una vez en la escuela, hace amigos, aprende cosas nuevas y se acostumbra a la rutina de la escuela. Al final del día escolar, él piensa que va a encontrar a su padre esperándolo. Sin embargo, cuando sale de la escuela no puede reconocer la sucia y bulliciosa ciudad que lo rodea. Entonces, un joven le llama "Abuelo" y se ofrece para ayudarlo a cruzar la calle.
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Identify Story Elements To understand a short story, it helps to break it down into parts or elements. Identify the elements of Mahfouz's story, using the following outline.

Setting: _____

Characters: _____

Sequence of Events (Plot):

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Problem or Conflict: _____

Resolution of Problem: _____

"How Much Land Does a Man Need?" by Leo Tolstoy (text page 274)

Summary A Russian peasant dreams of owning his own land. Unknowingly, he makes a pact with the devil to get the land he wants. He and his wife scrape together the money to buy a few acres. After successful harvests, they are able to afford more animals and more land. The peasant's hunger for land leads him to make a deal with a group of people called the Bashkirs. In exchange for gifts and money, he is told he can have as much land as he can claim in one day. He must walk the land to mark his boundaries and return by sunset. In his greed he walks too far. He runs as hard as he can to make it back before sunset, but he dies from exhaustion.

Resumen Un campesino ruso sueña con poseer su propia tierra. Sin saberlo, hace un pacto con el diablo para obtenerla. Junta a duras penas con su esposa el dinero para comprar unos pocos acres. Gracias a la prosperidad de sus cosechas logran adquirir más animales y más tierra. Llevado por sus ansias de obtener más tierra el campesino hace un trato con los *Bashkirs*. A cambio de los regalos y del dinero que les da, puede apropiarse de toda la tierra que recorra en un día. Debe establecer a pie los límites del terreno y regresar al anochecer. Impulsado por su codicia camina una gran distancia. Como corre a más no poder para volver a la hora señalada, muere de agotamiento.

Identify Character Traits Pahom enters into a pact with the devil when he boasts, "If I had plenty of land, I shouldn't fear the Devil Himself!" Make a list of five character traits that might have made Pahom attractive to the devil in this story. Next to each, describe a situation in which he reveals these traits.

1. Trait: _____
 Situation: _____

2. Trait: _____
 Situation: _____

3. Trait: _____
 Situation: _____

4. Trait: _____
 Situation: _____

5. Trait: _____
 Situation: _____

"I Think I'll Go Home and Lie Very Still" (text page 292)**"My Heart Remembers How I Once Loved You"** (text page 293)**"I Love a Girl, but She Lives Over There"** (text page 294)

Translated by John L. Foster

Summary In "I Think I'll Go Home," the speaker says he will go home and pretend to be terminally ill. His illness will baffle the doctors, but the speaker's "love" will know what is wrong with him. In "My Heart Remembers," the speaker sits with her "hair half done," remembering a person she once loved. Then, she runs outside looking for this person. If she ever returns, she says, she will "weave / an intricate hairdo." With her loved one gone, she has more than enough time to make such a hairdo. In order to reach his girlfriend on the far side of the Nile, the speaker in "I Love a Girl" is braving the flooding river and a crocodile that is guarding the crossing.

Resumen Resumen En "I Think I'll Go Home" el narrador dice que va a regresar a su casa y decir que está enfermo de muerte. Su enfermedad confundirá a los médicos, pero la persona que él ama sabrá lo que realmente anda mal con él. En "My Heart Remembers", la narradora está sentada con el pelo a medio peinar mientras recuerda a una persona que ella amó un vez. Entonces, corre fuera de la casa en busca de esa persona. Afirma que si algún día ella regresa, se hará un peinado muy intrincado. Como la persona amada se ha ido, ella tiene tiempo más que suficiente para hacerse tal peinado. Con el propósito de llegar a donde está su novia, al otro lado del río Nilo, el narrador de "I Love a Girl" desafía al río inundado y a un cocodrilo que está protegiendo el lugar del cruce.

Interpret Poetic Images Writers use words to paint pictures in the minds of their readers. Each of these selections has passages that create visual images. Play the role of a film director, and come up with a scene to convey each of the following images. In the space provided, describe each scene.

"I Think I'll Go Home and Lie Very Still"

How she'll smile while
The specialists snarl in their teeth!—

"My Heart Remembers How I Once Loved You"

And I am out running, looking for you,
Searching for you with my hair down!

"I Love a Girl, But She Lives Over There"

A whole Nile at floodstage rages between,
And a crocodile hunched on the sand
Keeps motionless guard at the crossing.
