

Section 3: Creating thematic statements specific to a literary work

Think of a novel, play, or short story you know well. Think of the thematic ideas that are present in that piece of literature. Choose a thematic idea word (you may use the resource list) and complete the fill-in-the-blank statement. The assertion in this statement will be directly related to the ideas presented in the work of literature.

Example:

Work: Cold Sassy Tree

Thematic idea: death

In Cold Sassy Tree, Olive Ann Burns presents the idea that death is not only an ending but also a chance for a new beginning when those who are still alive take the opportunity to learn from it.

Work: _____

Thematic idea: _____

Model: In _____, _____ presents the
(Name of the literary work) (Name of the author)
idea that _____
(thematic idea) (assertion about what the text teaches the reader about the thematic idea)

(qualifying clause that makes a generalized reference to the work: when, because, unless, even, so that, whether, if, etc.)

Work: _____

Thematic idea: _____

Model: In _____, _____ presents the
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