

Name: \_\_\_\_\_(pre-test)

### Book Club, Fall 2015

**Below is a paragraph from a dairy of a young woman who is a slave in Virginia in 1859 in the United States. It is fiction. The author is Patricia McKissack. Please read the paragraph and answer the three questions.**

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I got to be real particular and make sure nobody finds out though 'cause if my mas'er finds out I would fall under the whip. Time and again I done heard Mas' Henley swear that if he catches his slaves with learnin' he'll beat the skin off us, then sell our hides to slavers from the Deep South. He got the law on his side, too. Anybody found teachin' a slave in the state of Virginia can be sent to jail. Sure! Wonder why the white folks is so determined to keep us from knowin' things? What are they scared of?

1. Do you think she feels safe? Why or why not?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What has the writer done that she is afraid she will get in trouble for?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Do you think she would want to join our Book Club? Why or why not?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (post-test)

### Book Club, Fall 2015

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It stormed earlier tonight. Flashes of lightnin' lit up the attic room. I tried not to be scared. Lord, I miss Mama. When I was little and it would storm, me and Mama would hug up close and I wouldn't be scared.

The rain has finally stopped, but it is still, hot, and muggy—cain't sleep. Besides, I woke up dreamin' 'bout Mama again. I slipped quiet-like out of the kitchen, careful not to wake nobody, so I could come write.

1. Do you think she lives alone?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Does she have another person, besides her mother, that she is close to?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. How does she feel about writing? Why?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (pre-test)

### Book Club, Spring 2016

**Below is a paragraph from a book about a boy who was born with a disfigured face and body, but is normal in every other way. His family loves him and wants him to go to school and have friends, but they are afraid he will be treated badly by the other children. Read the paragraph from the story and answer the questions.**

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**If I found a magic lamp and I could have one wish, I would wish that I had a normal face that no one ever noticed at all. I would wish that I could walk down the street without people seeing me and then doing the look-away thing. Here's what I think: the only reason I'm not ordinary is that no one else sees me that way.**

1. In the above paragraph, we are reading from the boy's point of view. How do we know this? What words, feelings or thoughts inform us that he is telling us something?
2. How would this description of how strangers react to the boy's appearance if his mother were telling us about how she experiences strangers looking at her son?
3. If a young child saw this boy at the park for the first time, and was frightened of the boy's appearance, and wrote the paragraph from his point of view, how would the above paragraph be different?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ (post-test)

## Book Club, Spring 2016

**Below is a paragraph from a book about a boy who was born with a disfigured face and body, but is normal in every other way. His family loves him and wants him to go to school and have friends, but they are afraid he will be treated badly by the other children. Read the paragraph from the story and answer the questions.**

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Next week I start fifth grade. Since I've never been to a real school before, I am pretty much totally and completely petrified. People think I haven't gone to school because of the way I look, but it's not that. It's because of all the surgeries I've had. Twenty-seven since I was born.

1. In the above paragraph, we are reading from the boy's point of view. How do we know this? What words, feelings or thoughts inform us that he is telling us something?
2. If this paragraph were written from the point of view of a doctor who looked at his face to perform many surgeries, how would it be different?
3. If this paragraph were written from the point of view of his mother who took him to all of the surgeries, how would it be different?

### Book Club Survey

The book club will meet once a week on Wednesdays, from 12:15-1:15.

We will read a whole book in English and talk, write, and answer questions about it. This will improve your English grammar, speaking, listening, reading and writing, but our reason for starting the book club is to enjoy reading books and sharing them with others.

If you are interested, please write your contact information, and give this sheet to Christie, your teacher, your advisor, or the front desk staff.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Why do you want to join a book club?

How do you feel about reading?

Where do you read? (please check one or write your answer)

- in the bathroom
- in the living room
- on the T
- at work
- in class
- anywhere I can

When do read? (please check one or write your answer)in the morning

in the morning

in the afternoon

in the evening

before bed

whenever I can

When you read, what do you read? (the newspaper, books in my language, novels, poetry, biographies, etc)

What kind of fiction do you like to read? (history, romance, stories about people like me or different from me, stories that inspire me, true stories, science fiction, fantasy, etc.)

## **Book Club Survey**

We may use these comments to try to convince organizations to give us money for another book club. If you don't want us to use your comments, please tell us not to use your comments here: \_\_\_\_\_

Please think about how book club has influenced your reading habits or your thoughts about yourself as a reader.

How do you feel about reading a whole novel in English now compared to before you started book club?

How do you think about yourself as a reader of English novels? Has that changed from when you joined book club or when you started learning English?

How do you feel about speaking up in a discussion about a book? Has that changed for you? Can you give an example of why it has changed or not?

After participating in Book Club, will you read more, read differently or has your reading changed in any way because of book club? Please give some examples:

Why have you participated in Book Club and how has it changed you or what have you learned?

Any other comments that you would like to make about Book Club: