TEACHER KEY · LESSON WORKSHEET · GRADE 5 · 5.RC.1 & 5.RC.2

Theme & Summary

Fill in each part when its number appears on the slide.

PART 1 · TARGET

I can determine a theme from how characters respond to challenges and write an objective summary.

PART 2 · WARM-UP

1. What is the difference between a topic and a lesson?
   Key: A topic is a word or two (friendship). A lesson/theme is a full sentence about life.
2. Think of a story or movie you know. What lesson did the main character learn?
   Key: Answers vary; look for a complete sentence that applies to anyone.
3. Retell a story you know in exactly 3 sentences: beginning, middle, end.
   Key: Answers vary; look for who, problem, key event, resolution.

PART 3 · PREDICTION

The tortoise beats the hare. Is "a race" the lesson of the story?

Circle one: [ ] Yes [ ] No [ ] Not sure

PART 4 · VOCABULARY

Word	Meaning
Theme	The message or life lesson the author wants readers to understand. It is written as a full sentence.
Topic	What the story is about in one or two words (friendship, courage). A topic is not a theme.
Summary	A short retelling of the most important events in order, without opinions.
Conflict	The problem or challenge the main character faces.

PART 5 · TOPIC VS. THEME

A TOPIC is one or two words. A THEME is a complete sentence about life.

Check: Which is a theme, not a topic?

Circle one: (A) Friendship (B) The ocean (C) Hard work can overcome difficulties. (D) Hard work

Key: (C) Hard work can overcome difficulties. A theme is a complete sentence about life.

PART 6 · FIND THE THEME

To find a theme, track the character's CHALLENGE, RESPONSE, and CHANGE.

Check: The tortoise keeps moving steadily and wins. The theme is:

Circle one: (A) Racing is fun. (B) The hare fell asleep. (C) Slow and steady effort can beat talent without effort. (D) Tortoises are slow.

Key: (C) Slow and steady effort can beat talent without effort. It is a lesson for anyone.

PART 7 · THEMES ARE FOR EVERYONE

A theme statement should not include CHARACTER NAMES.

Check: Which theme statement is written best?

Circle one: (A) Kindness. (B) Kindness can change someone's day. (C) Leo was kind to Ava. (D) Be nice.

Key: (B) Kindness can change someone's day. It is a full sentence with no names.

PART 8 · WRITE A SUMMARY

A summary includes who, the PROBLEM, key EVENTS, and the RESOLUTION. It leaves out OPINIONS.

Check: Which belongs in a summary?

Circle one: (A) Your favorite part (B) The color of the character's shirt (C) Whether you liked it (D) The main problem

Key: (D) The main problem. Summaries include the main events, not opinions.

PART 9 · WORKED EXAMPLE

1. Formula: Character + challenge + response + change -> lesson.
2. Character: the tortoise. Challenge: racing a much faster hare.
3. Response: keeps moving steadily. Change: wins while the hare naps.
4. Lesson: "The tortoise learned slow and steady wins."
5. Make it universal (remove the name): "Slow and steady effort can beat talent without effort."

PART 10 · WE DO

Story: Ben forgets his lines in the play, freezes, then keeps going and finishes. The audience cheers. Write the theme.

Answer: Pushing through mistakes can still lead to success.

PART 11 · YOU DO

Which is the BEST summary sentence for "The Tortoise and the Hare"?

Circle one: (A) I liked the tortoise best. (B) The race was on a sunny day. (C) A slow tortoise beats a fast hare in a race because the hare stops to nap and the tortoise keeps going. (D) The hare is very fast and brags a lot.

Key: (C) A slow tortoise beats a fast hare in a race because the hare stops to nap and the tortoise keeps going. It includes who, the problem, the key event, and the resolution.

PART 12 · WORK TIME: THE STORY GALLERY

Write each code piece as you earn it: Exhibit A: L Exhibit B: E Exhibit C: A Exhibit D: R Exhibit E: N

Final code: LEARN

PART 13 · WRAP-UP

Was your prediction in Part 3 right? One thing I learned today:

Key: Answers vary; look for who, problem, key event, resolution.