



STORIES

without

END

24 open-ended stories to engage students
in reading, discussion, and creative writing

Taylor Sapp

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SUPPLEMENTS 1: SUMMARIES

1.1 Simple Story Summary and Reaction

Story Name:

Summary: Describe the story in a short paragraph.

New Vocab: List at least three new vocabulary words you learned from the story.

Reaction: Did you like the story? Why or why not?

1.2 Expanded Story Summary and Reaction

Story Name: _____

1. Genre: _____

2. Setting: (Location) _____

3. Main Characters: (Describe 2).

1. _____

2. _____

4. Summary: Describe the story in a short paragraph.

5. New Vocab: List at three or more new vocabulary words you learned from the story.

6. Reaction: Did you like the story? Why or why not?

1.3 Full Summary

Choose 1 option: In about one page, less than 200 words:

- Summarize the story.
- **Rewrite** the story in your own words.

Story Name: _____

[illegible]

1.4 Character Summary

Choose one or more characters from your story: For each character, write as many details as you can from the story. Some characters may have more details than others.

Story Name: _____

Character Name: _____

Relationships: _____

Age: _____

Gender: _____

Appearance: _____

Likes: _____

Dislikes: _____

Other Relevant Details: _____

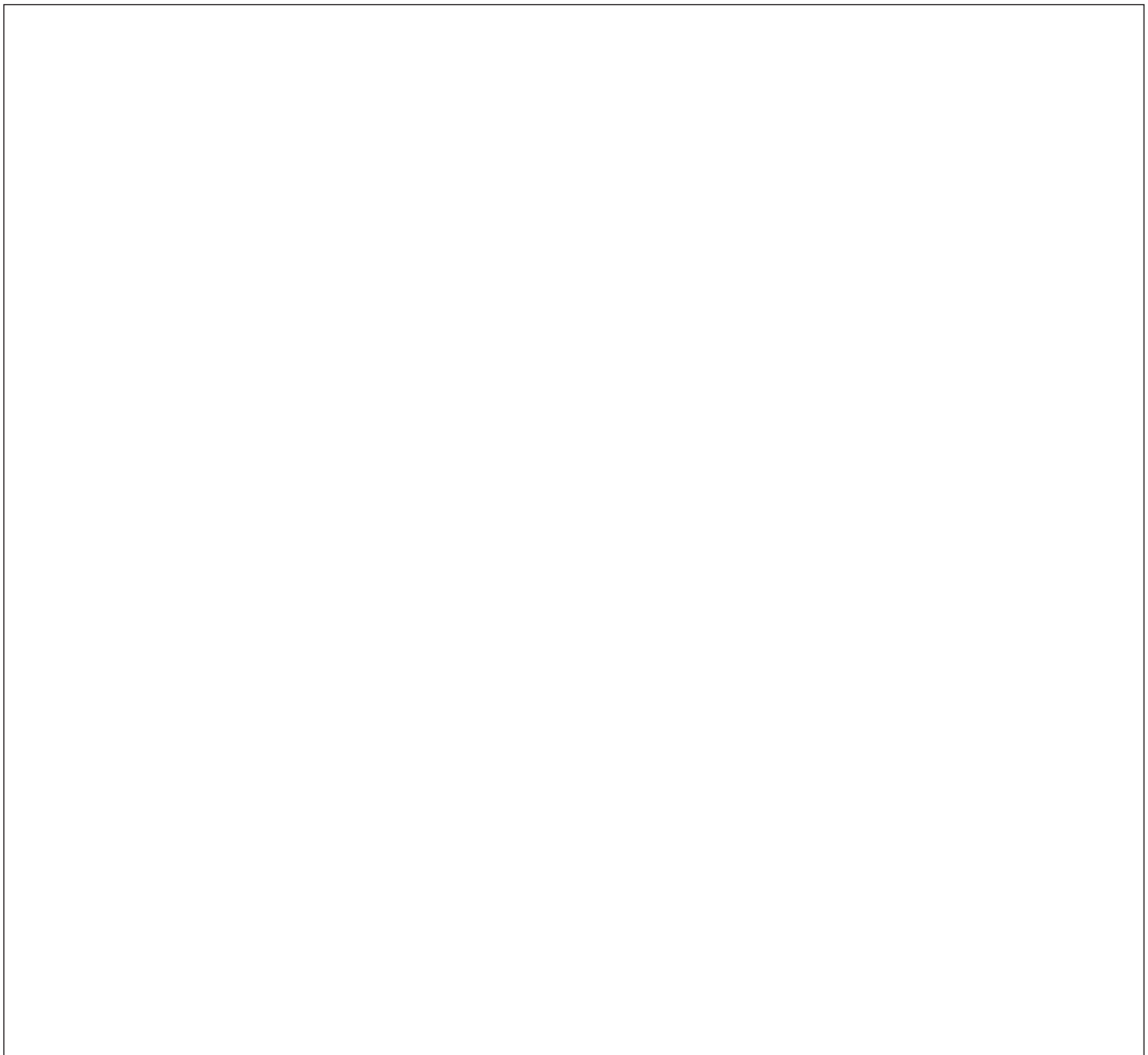
SUPPLEMENTS 2: ILLUSTRATIONS

2.1 Illustrations

Choose one of the following tasks:

- Draw a cover for the story.
- Draw an interesting scene or moment in the story.
- Draw a poster or advertisement for the story.

Story Name: _____



2.2 Comic Panels

Using the panels on the next page, choose one of the following activities:

- 1. Character Panels:** Draw a picture in each panel of an important character from your story at different points in the story. Add their name and any other important details
- 2. Comic Strip:** Translate your story into a comic strip.
- 3. Make Your Own Comic:** Use the panels below to make your own comic story.

Story Name: _____

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SUPPLEMENTS 3: WRITING

3.1 Add a New Character

Write or rewrite part of the story adding a new character. It might be one that you invent, or a famous character from the movies, TV, history, or another story.

Story Name: _____

Character Added: _____

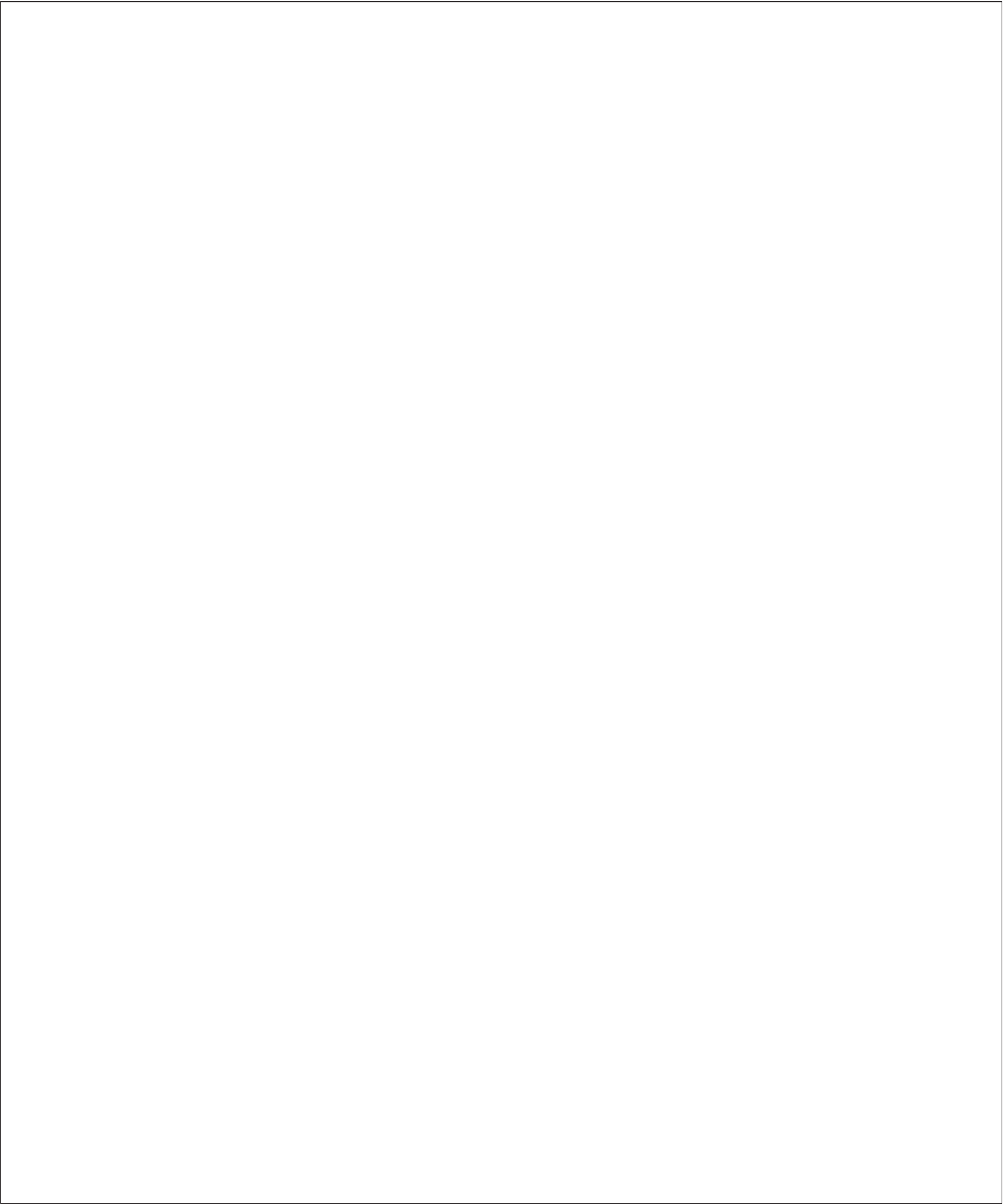
[illegible]

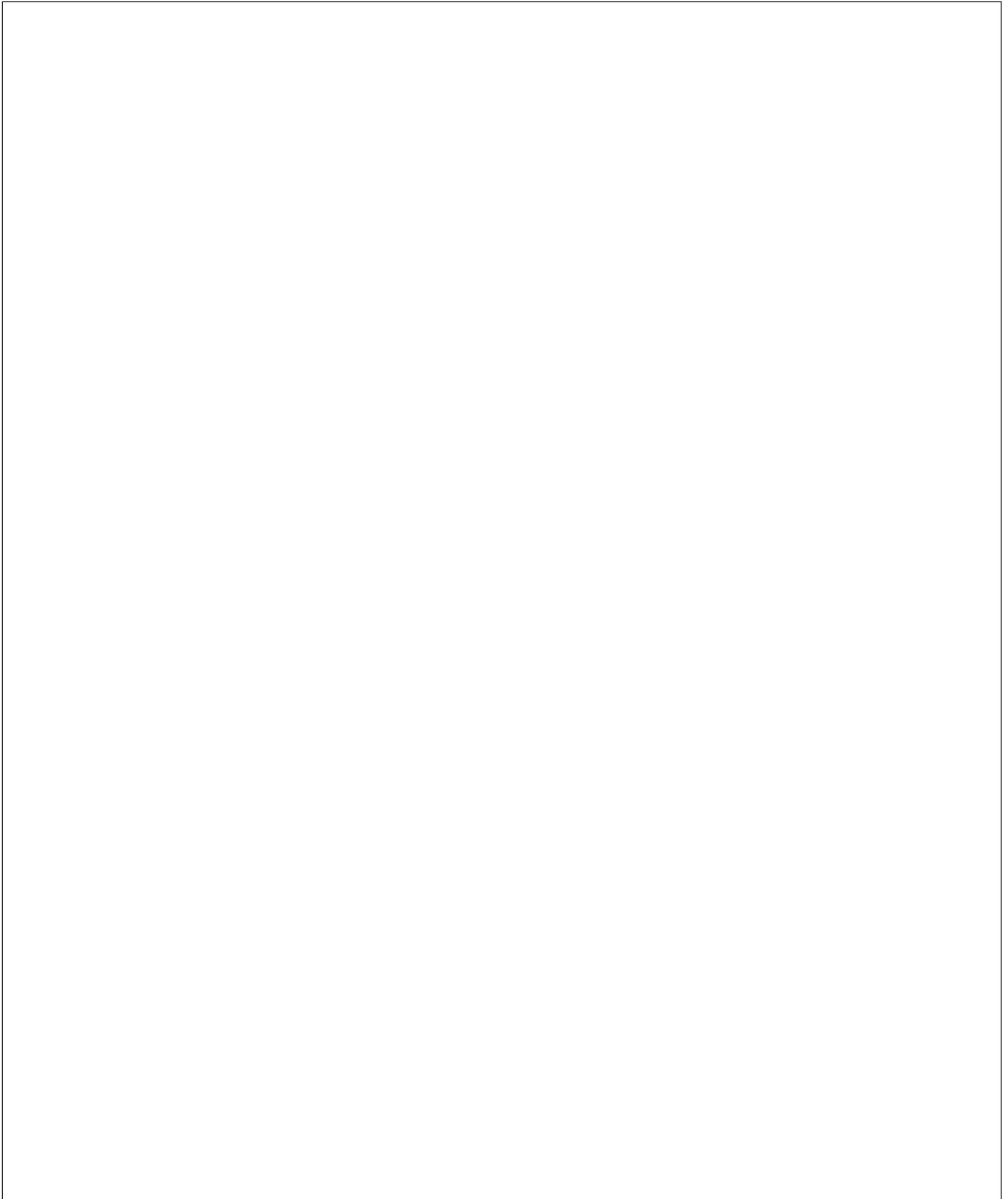
Now draw your character or create a new cover for the story with your character.

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
| | |

- [illegible]

Now draw your character or create a new cover for the story





3.3 Create Your Own Fiction

Write a Flash Fiction (a very short story) of ~**200 Words**. Use the questions below to plan your story before writing. Then write your story on a separate piece of paper. Add a picture for a bonus!

Story Title: _____

1.Genre: Romantic/Drama/Science Fiction/Horror/Non-Fiction/Other _____

2. Setting: (Location) _____

3. Main Characters: (Describe 2) _____

1. _____

2. _____

4. Action: (What is the main drama of the Story? Describe in a short paragraph) _____

SUPPLEMENTS 4: MEDIA

4.1 Make a Storyboard Plan for a Movie or Scene

In a group, adapt your story (the full story or a single scene) into a short film. Use a storyboard to plan your film. Try drawing at least 6 basic pictures (they can be very simple, they just need to show the main idea).

1. Story/Scene Name: _____

2. Outline: Describe your story/scene in 1-2 short sentences.

3. Storyboard: Draw 6 or more panels to explain your story.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |

Your scene should have three elements, listed below with some examples.

| Setting | Characters | Situation |
|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Where is the scene taking place? | How many characters are in your scene? Who are they? | What is the action of the scene? |
| At school | Friends | Arguing/fighting |
| At a store | Family | Romance |
| In a dream | Strangers | Having dinner |

1. Original Story Title: _____

2. Brief Summary: _____

3. **Plan:** Write out the plan for your scene!

| Setting | Characters | Situation |
|---------|------------|-----------|
| | | |

4. Now write a script, the full dialogue, on another sheet of paper. Be sure to include any actions the characters take as well.

4.3 Make a Movie

In a group, adapt your story into a short film. You can use your cellphone camera and any of a number of free apps that let you edit and mix videos. Be sure to think about costumes, props, and settings.

Choose one of these three projects:

1. Trailer: Make a 1-2 minute preview for your movie would be like, similar to the advertisements for movies you see on TV.
2. Important Scene: Choose one scene from your story to adapt and act out.
3. Full Movie: Film your entire story in 5-10 minutes!

Each scene in your film should have three elements, listed below with some examples.

| Setting | Characters | Situation |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where is the scene taking place? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many characters are in your film? Who are they? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is the action of the scene? |
| At school | Friends | Arguing/fighting |
| At a store | Family | Romance |
| In a dream | Strangers | Having dinner |

Now write a plan for your project below:

1. **Story Title:** _____

2. **Project Idea:** _____

3. **Brief Summary:** _____

4. **Plan:** Write out the plan for each scene!

| Setting | Characters | Situation |
|---------|------------|-----------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

5. Now write a script, the full dialogue, on another sheet of paper. Be sure to include any actions the characters take as well.

SUPPLEMENTS 5: INTERVIEWS

5.1 General Interviews

Use the table below to create interviews related to your story! Use a question suggested in the **Projects** section of the story you're reading or create your own.

Try to ask at least 5 people your question.

After the interview, compare the answers and think about what the most interesting results were from your interviews.

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Interview Question: _____ | |
| Name of Respondent | Answer |
| | |
| | |
| | |
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| | |

5.2 Biography

Interview another student in your class and write the story of their life. Alternatively, you could do research on a famous person. Use the questions below to guide you, but you don't have to answer each one and you may want to add your own questions.

Use your notes to write a **~1 page** story about the person's life.

1. Early Life/Childhood

- Who is the person? Name?
- When/Where were they born?
- What did their parents do?
- Where did they live as a child?
- Where did they go to school?
- What kind of childhood did they have?

2. Later Life

- Did they go to college? Where? What did they study?
- What was their first job? What other jobs did they do?
- What's their best/worst job experience?
- Did they marry? If so, who did they marry?
- Did they have any children? How many?

3. Life Experiences

- What were the most important events they did?
- What were the most difficult times?
- What were the most exciting times?
- Did they travel to other countries?
- Did they meet any very interesting people?
- What area of life does the person wish to be famous for? (e.g. politics, music, film, etc.)

4. Your Questions

Ask two more questions of your choice!

Question 1: _____

Question 2: _____

Using your notes, write a one-page story about the person you've interviewed. Choose 1 of the options for a topic below:

- Their childhood
- Their job experiences
- A good or a disappointing experience
- The most interesting event in the person's life
- Their future

[illegible]

SUPPLEMENTS 6: LANGUAGE EXPANSION ACTIVITIES

6.1 Vocabulary Journal

Keep a **Vocabulary Journal** of any new words from your story. Copy this page and fill it out with new words or design your own chart.

| Word and Picture | Part of Speech | Definition | Example Sentence: |
|------------------|----------------|--|--|
| English | N./Adj. | The chief language of GB, the U.S., and many areas | Studying English is extremely interesting and fun! |
| | | | |
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6.2 Parts of Speech Journal

Make a list of five words from each part of speech below from your story. Add the **definition** for any words you don't know.

| Story Title _____ | | |
|-------------------|-------|--------------------|
| Nouns | Verbs | Adjectives/Adverbs |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Reflection Questions:

1. Put a check mark (✓) next to the words you didn't know before you read the story.
2. Write sentences using each word you didn't know before.

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

d. _____

e. _____

3. Write one new sentence using one word from each part of speech in the table above.

6.3 Verb Tense Journal

Find examples of different verb tenses used in the story. Try to explain **why** they're being used.

| Story Title _____ | | |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------|
| Example Sentence | Verb Tense | Why is it used? |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

Reflection Question:

1. Write **3 sentences** using the three verb forms from your chart! (You can write below or use another piece of paper).