Literature: Story Elements

TRACK 1 IDEA

Analyze the **Development**

DEVELOP CHARACTER
What words does the author use to describe [character]? What can you infer about him/her from these words?

What do you learn about [character] in the paragraph that starts with, "[quote]"?

Why does [character A] say, "[quote]"? How does this dialogue relate to his/her character?

How does [character] behave at the beginning of the story? In the middle? At the end?

When do characters change in the story? How do you know the characters have changed? Why do they change at that point?

Why did the author choose to include [character] in the text? What is his/her role?

DEVELOP SETTING
What do you learn about the setting in the paragraph that starts with, "[quote]"?

How is the time and place important to the story?

How does the setting affect the overall tone of the text?

DEVELOP EVENTS
What key sentences move the plot?

Which events had the most impact?

What event is the turning point of the story?

What challenges do the major events cause?

How do the events in the text build on each other?

How does paragraph # __ contribute to the story?

What is similar/different about [event] and [event]?

What role does [event] play in the overall text?

What do you learn about [event] in the paragraph that starts with, "[quote]"?

TRACK 2 IDEAS

Analyze the **Relationship**

CHARACTER-EVENT INTERACTION
How does [character] react to major events?

How do specific lines of dialogue advance the plot?

What does [event] reveal about [character]?

How do the characters respond to challenges within the story?

How does [character] contribute to [situation, problem, or solution]?

What event provoked [character] to make a decision? How did the event cause that?

What is the relationship between the sequence of events and character development in the text?

EVENT-EVENT INTERACTION
How are [event] and [another event] connected?

How did the event on page # __ help to advance the plot?

How do the events in chapter # __ relate to those in chapter # __?

EVENT-SETTING INTERACTION
How is the sequence of events affected by the setting?

How do the series of events at the beginning of the story contribute to the overall tone of the text?

What role does the setting play in the plot?

How does the setting play a role in the story?

Would the story have been the same if it had taken place in a different location or at a different time?

CHARACTER-CHARACTER INTERACTION
What are [character A's] feelings about [character B]?

How are [character A] and [character B] alike and different?

What is the relationship between [character A] and [character B]?

How do [character A's] actions cause [character B] to react?

How does the main character get along with the other characters?

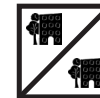How do other characters make things better/worse for [character]?

CHARACTER-SETTING INTERACTION
What is the connection between setting and character development in the story?

How do the characters interact based on the specific setting?

How does the setting impact character choices?

SETTING-SETTING INTERACTION
What are the similarities/differences between the different settings in the story?

How do multiple settings interact within the story?

PLOT-THEME INTERACTION
Which events help the characters learn a lesson?

How are the events in paragraphs # __ and # __ important to the theme of the story?

How is the author's message developed over the course of the text in relationship to the characters and the events?