**“Rikki Tikki Tavi” by Rudyard Kipling p.227-244**

**The BIG EQ: Does every conflict have a winner?**

**Check out this prezi:** [**http://prezi.com/nldkug69wb4e/rikki-tikki-tavi/**](http://prezi.com/nldkug69wb4e/rikki-tikki-tavi/)

**Discussion Questions**

1. **Who is Rudyard Kipling? P. 227**
2. **What was India like when Rudyard Kipling wrote this short story?**

**Religions:**

**Government: Who ruled India then?**

1. **Describe the climate in India:**

**Main Characters**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Protagonists:**  Direct Characterization:  Indirect Characterization: | **Antagonists:**  Direct Characterization:  Indirect Characterization: |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Antagonists:**  Direct Characterization:  Indirect Characterization: | **Antagonists:**  Direct Characterization:  Indirect Characterization: | | |
| **Minor Characters & their Characteristics:** | |

**Characters in “Rikki-Tikki-Tavi”:**

**In what ways are the characters like humans?**

The characters, which are animals in this story, take on human characteristics (personification). You will notice that the animals will be able to talk, come up with plans, and have feelings.

1. Rikki-tikki: A mongoose. He is the main character and the protagonist.
2. Darzee: A bird. Darzee and his wife live in a thornbush.
3. Nag: Hustband to Nagaina. Nag is a cobra and an antagonist.
4. Nagaina: Wife to Nag. She is also a cobra and an antagonist.
5. Chuchundra: A muskrat who gives Rikki-tikki advice.
6. Karait: A dusty, brown snake-he is also very venomous. He is an antagonist.

**Conflict**

**Conflict 1: Man vs. Nature**

**Rikki-tikki-tavi (RTT) vs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |
| --- |
| What happened? |
| How important? |
| Internal or external? |

**Conflict 2: Man vs. Man**

**RTT vs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| --- |
| What happened? |
| How important? |
| Internal or external? |

**Conflict 3: Man vs. Self**

**RTT vs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| --- |
| What happened? |
| How important? |
| Internal or external? |

**Conflict 4: Man vs. Man**

**RTT vs. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| --- |
| What happened? |
| How important? |
| Internal or external? |

**Theme**

A **theme** *presents a theory about living similar to a philosophy*. Could the theme of Kipling’s story suggest that sometimes an individual must take a stand against oppression or injustice? Could the theme suggest that an individual comes to know his own abilities through the tests he faces? Could the theme suggest that good will overcome evil? Can a story illustrate more than one theme?

As one reads, many ideas will occur about living from the various acts and character’s decisions in the story. In considering a story’s theme, evaluate the whole story rather than suggesting every possible random idea that can be generated about the story’s individual events.

Think of a fairy tale or Mother Goose tale you know. State a theme that can be supported by that tale.

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**Rikki-Tikki-Tavi**

**Now, write a theme for Rikki-Tikki-Tavi. Be able support your theme with at least 3 supportive, textual evidence.**

Theme:

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**Evidence #1:**

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**Evidence #2:**

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**Evidence #3:**

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**“Rikki Tikki Tavi” Vocabulary**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Vocabulary Word | Definition | Synonym | Antonym |
| 1. Immensely |  |  |  |
| 1. Valiant |  |  |  |
| 1. Bungalow |  |  |  |
| 1. Lilt |  |  |  |
| 1. Gait |  |  |  |
| 1. Draggled |  |  |  |
| 1. Sluice |  |  |  |
| 1. Consolation |  |  |  |
| 1. Bother |  |  |  |
| 1. The term “firm purchase” |  |  |  |
| 1. Cower |  |  |  |
| 1. Masonry |  |  |  |
| 1. providence |  |  |  |
| 1. Another term for “porch” that was used in the story |  |  |  |
| BONUS: What’s the name of the creator as believed by the Hindu religion? |  |  |  |

**Connotations & Denotations**

**Connotations**: emotional responses that accompany a word

**Denotations**: dictionary definition of a word

For example, the word *crafty* is a synonym for the words *cunning, shrewd, sly* and *wily*. There denotations or dictionary meanings are very similar. Do their connotations cause you to feel there is a difference between their meanings?

Below is a list of adjectives to describe four characters in the short story. Fill in the chart, telling which adjectives describe each character and whether the adjectives feel like a positively or negatively charged word for you. Insert a plus (+) or minus (-) to indicate your choice.

Quick dangerous curious confident afraid strong

Angry frightened savage wicked valiant sensible

Resourceful cunning wily sly brave feather-brained

Bold cocky loyal protective simple clever

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Darzee** | **Darzee’s Wife** | **Rikki Tikki Tavi** | **Nagaina** |
|  |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Which characters possess both positive and negative qualities? |

**“Rikki Tikki Tavi” Figures of Speech**

|  |
| --- |
| **He fluffed up his tale until it looked like a bottlebrush.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **He stayed balancing to and for exactly as a dandelion tuft balances in the wind.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **Rikki saw the spectacle mark on the back of the hood that looks exactly like the eye part of a hook-and-eye fastening.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **At the bottom of Nag’s cold heart he knew that a mongoose’s business was to kill snakes.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **Rikki sat back on his tail and hind legs like a little kangearoo.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **Rikki was battered to and fro as a rat is shaken by a dog.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **The man brough the bang stick.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **Rikki was bounding around, his little eyes like hot coals.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **Nagaina gathered herself up like a watch spring.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **Nagaina flew like an arrow down the path. She ran like a whiplash flicked across a horse’s back.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **Rikki heard the Coppersmith’s “attention” notes like a dinner gong.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |
| **Rikki-tikki-tave, the ivory-fanged, The hunter with eyeballs of flame.**  Figure of speech:  What impression does it make on a reader?: |

**Elements of a Short Story**

**5. Resolution**

**4. Falling Action**

**3. Climax**

**2. Rising Action**

1. **Exposition**