

A LIT CIRCLE EXTENSION BY _____, P.I.

Title of Book: _____

Chapters/Pages: _____

Date Completed: _____

Independent Investigator (Private Eye)



Dig up some background information on a topic in your book.
Figure out what is fact vs. opinion, real vs. make-believe.

Topic under investigation: _____

My resources are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Here's the scoop:

K	W	L
What I Know about this topic	What I Want to find out	What I Learned (Mark the Resource # next to the information so we know where you found it.)

Continued on the back →

Independent Investigation continued...

K	W	L
What I Know about this topic	What I Want to find out	What I Learned (Mark the Resource # next to the information so we know where you found it.)

Did your investigation reveal that some of the things in the story are based on real life (they could really happen) and others are based entirely on imagination (they could not really happen)? If so, fill out this chart to compare what could happen (real) vs. what could not (make-believe).

REAL (could happen in real life)	MAKE - BELIEVE (could not happen in real life)

Did your investigation reveal that some of the things said by characters were opinions rather than facts? If so, fill out this chart to compare what was fact vs. opinion in the story.

FACT	OPINION

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Dare to Compare



It is fun to compare different things and see what is the same about them, what is different, and which you like better! This side of the page will show one example for comparing two fiction stories, and one example for comparing non-fiction information. On the back side, there is a blank double-T chart for you to use, and you can make the decision about which categories you want to compare.

FICTION

(comparing 2 versions of Three Little Pigs)

The Three Little Javelinas	Categories being Compared ↓	The Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig
	Who is the Protagonist? (the "good guy")	
	Character Trait of the Protagonist	
	Who is the Antagonist? (the "bad guy")	
	Character Trait of the Antagonist	
	Setting	
	The "Problem"	
	The "Solution"	
	Tone of the Story (humorous, serious, suspenseful, etc.)	
	Theme, Lesson, or Message in the Story	

NON-FICTION

(comparing two animals and their adaptations)

Black Bear	Categories being Compared	Polar Bear
	Color & Size	
	Biome or Habitat	
	How does it survive the climate?	
	Herbivore, Carnivore, or Omnivore	
	Diet (what it likes to eat)	
	How does it catch its prey or food?	
	Predators (any animals who want to catch it?)	
	How does it protect itself from Predators?	

Who Dares to Compare? _____ Date: _____

	Categories being Compared ↓	

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The Spin Zone



Tell the same story from a different character's point of view, or as a reporter.

Sure you've heard the story of the *Three Little Pigs*, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*, and *Cinderella*. But if it had been the wolf, the troll, or the stepsisters telling the story, do you think it would have been told the same way? Do you think the story of *Harry Potter* would be the same if it were told by Draco Malfoy?

Stories are usually told in a way that makes the protagonist look good (Harry Potter, Cinderella, the goats, the pigs), and the antagonist look bad (Draco Malfoy, the evil stepsisters, the troll under the bridge, the wolf who wants to eat the pigs).

Think about the story you just read. I'm sure the antagonist had lots of good excuses for everything he did. He would probably LOVE his side of the story to be told! **Your mission is to write a different version of the same story you just read.** Try to tell it the way that the antagonist would tell it - so that it sounds like he really never did anything wrong, that everything he did was for a good reason.

Or, pretend that you are a newspaper reporter who watched the whole story happen right in front of your eyes. You have lots of power. With the words you choose, you can make the same character sound good or bad, brave or cowardly, thoughtful or selfish, clever or foolish, etc. Have fun choosing your words when you tell us what you saw through your own eyes!

Use the back side of this page to begin your story. You may use composition paper if you need extra pages.

The Spin Zone by _____ date: _____

I am going to tell the story of _____ from
the point of view of _____ .

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top solid, middle dashed, bottom solid) for writing.

A LIT CIRCLE EXTENSION BY _____

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Language Patrol

Your mission is to BE ON THE LOOKOUT for all words that are in one of the following categories...



- Exciting verbs
- Juicy adjectives
- Descriptive nouns
- Alternatives to "said"
- Words with 4 syllables
- Similes
- Metaphors
- Certain Suffixes or Prefixes (words ending in -ly)
- _____
- Lists (separated by commas)
- Various spelling rules (doubling final letter before adding ending)
- Homonyms
- Multiple Meaning words
- Words with Long A sounds (or Long O, Long E, etc.)
- Prepositional phrases
- _____

Check with the teacher to decide on which category you will be patrolling for! After that, start hunting!

Category under Surveillance: _____			
Page Number	The Suspects	Page Number	The Suspects

Continued on the back →

Language Patrol continued...

IF YOUR CATEGORY WAS FROM THE FIRST COLUMN (except prefixes/suffixes), TRY THIS:

Put two authors in a "line-up" and see if a friend can identify the author based on their two different styles of writing. Part of an author's style is the words that he/she likes to use when trying to "paint a picture" in our mind of what's going on in the story.

First, pick a book similar to one you just read, but by a different author.

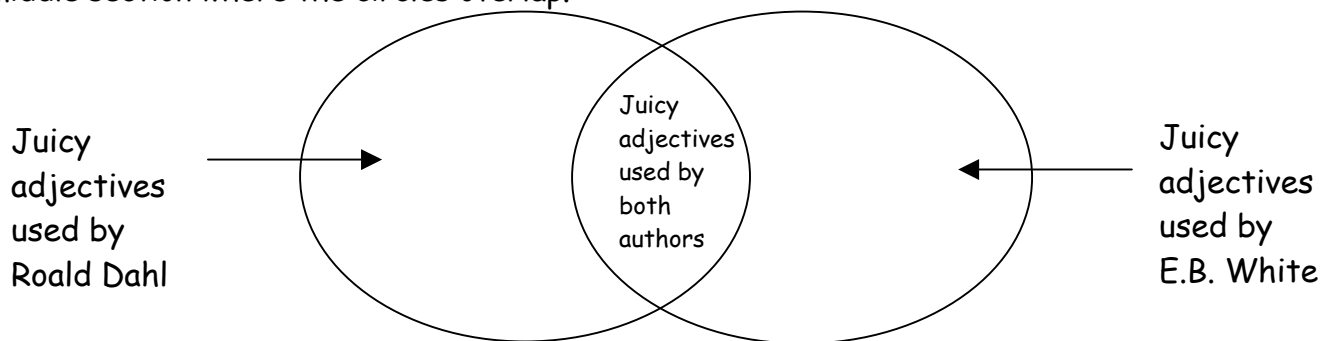
Title of similar book: _____

Author: _____

Go on patrol! Pick a few pages in the book and hunt for words that fit into the same category!

Category under Surveillance (same as for other book): _____			
Page Number	The Suspects	Page Number	The Suspects

Now take all of your suspects and place them in a Venn Diagram (Use a full-size Venn and attach it to this page). The left circle is for the author of the book you read (other side). The right circle is for the author of the book you just looked at (this side). Any words used by both authors go in the middle section where the circles overlap.



Show your Venn Diagram to a friend who has read books by both authors. Tell them who both authors are (and the books that you patrolled), but don't tell them which author goes with which circle. See if they can guess!

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Play "Name that Character Trait"



Make a case for a trait and see if your friend can get it!

Your mission is to find a situation in the story where a certain character trait is being shown, or not being shown.

Write a paragraph that describes the situation, but that DOESN'T mention the character trait. Let a friend read your paragraph and see if he/she can guess which character trait is being shown, or not being shown, in the situation you described. *(Write your answer on the back.)*

The traits you may pick from are on this list:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determination, Perseverance (doesn't give up)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thoughtfulness (caring, respectful)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Courage (brave)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Problem-Solving
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teamwork	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motivation (wants it)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Focus (pays attention)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Common Sense

Handwriting practice lines consisting of multiple sets of three horizontal lines (top, middle, bottom) with a dashed midline.