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Assessment Rubric



Loser

Student's Name: _____ Assignment: _____ Level: _____

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Comprehension of Novel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a limited understanding of the novel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a basic understanding of the novel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a good understanding of the novel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrates a thorough understanding of the novel
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and details relevant to focus incomplete; key details missing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some elements complete; details missing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All required elements completed; key details contain some description 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All required elements completed; enough description for clarity
Style	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Little variety in word choice. Language vague and imprecise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some variety in word choice. Language somewhat vague and imprecise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good variety in word choice. Language precise and quite descriptive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writer's voice is apparent throughout. Excellent choice of words. Precise language.
Conventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spelling, language, capitalization, punctuation errors seriously interfere with the writer's purpose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Repeated errors in mechanics and usage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some errors in convention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Few errors in convention

STRENGTHS:

WEAKNESSES:

NEXT STEPS:



Chapters Ten and Eleven

Part A

Answer the questions in complete sentences.

- The title of Chapter 10 is quite interesting. What does atrocious mean? Predict what this chapter might be about.

- Zinkoff's father is a mailman. On a separate sheet of paper design the following: an interesting mailbox to put in front of your house. Make it reflect something important about your personality or something you really enjoy (i.e. a picture of your favorite animal).

Vocabulary

Synonyms are words with similar meanings. Use the context of the sentences below to help you choose the best synonym for the underlined word in each sentence. If you cannot determine the meaning from the context, consult a dictionary.

- Mrs. Biswell found Zinkoff's behavior to be insulting and disrespectful.
 a) silly b) rude c) humorous d) noisy
- Zinkoff's handwriting was atrocious.
 a) stylish b) neat c) old-fashioned d) dreadful
- The teacher grew tired of the boy's antics in the cafeteria.
 a) pranks b) speeches c) charades d) stale lunches
- Donald expects to drive a respectable distance.
 a) short b) far c) good d) bumpy
- Mr. Zinkoff is determined to make the day live up to his son's expectations.
 a) goals b) anticipations c) hobbies d) riddles



Chapters 1 to 4

Clever Ways of Saying Things

Jerry Spinelli is a very good writer who sometimes says things in unusual ways. Often the reader has to stop and think about what Spinelli has written.

Choose three of the following phrases and put them in your own words:

- *this brick and hoagie town (p. 3)*
- *the let-loose sidewalk pups (p. 5)*
- *tries to outstare the sun (p.3)*
- *the never-blinking sun (p. 4)*
- *as surely as noses drip downward (p. 5)*
- *the usually hatted students (p.9)*

Now think of three additional sayings that are unusual yet imaginative. They may be sayings you have heard or read - or ones that you just made up. Be sure to put the meanings to these sayings beside each one.



Chapters 5 to 9

Expressing One's Mind

Zinkoff learns a lot about the uniqueness and power of words in these chapters. Several of the words he meets are "made-up words or phrases".

- *"Tintinnabulation." Is it a real word? If so what does it mean?*
- *"He knocks over his desk with a nerve-slapping racket" (p.17) Nerves can't really be "slapped", can they? Yet why is this still a catchy expression?*
- *What did Zinkoff's teacher mean by the expression, "hitched a ride on a pencil point" (p.18)?*
 - *When does Mrs. Meeks use the word "Jabip"?*

Now think of three additional sayings that are unusual yet imaginative. They may be sayings you have heard or read - or ones that you just made up. Be sure to put the meanings to these sayings beside each one.

Time Line



Write the main events in the proper order from **Loser** on the following Time Line.
Try to come up with at least 12 important events.



12th Event:

10th Event:

8th Event:

6th Event:

4th Event:

2nd Event:

11th Event:

9th Event:

7th Event:

5th Event:

3rd Event:

1st Event:

SAMPLE