

Book Club Focus Assessment and Rubric

Name: _____

Maniac Magee
Book Club Focus Assessment

Figurative Language

Directions: Use what you know about **Maniac Magee** to answer each of the following questions.

The phrase "down-and-out" is used to describe one of the visitors at the Pickwell's dinner table (page 20). What is the meaning of this phrase? What does this tell you about the Pickwell family?

While McNab was striking out kids after the Little League game, the text says, "He was like a shark" (page 23). Which of the following words could replace this simile?

A Fierce
B Scary
C Beastly
D All of the above

When describing a hot day in August, author Jerry Spinelli wrote, "So hot you were packing candy, you had soup in your pocket by two o'clock" (page 59). This sentence is an example of what type of figurative language?

A Simile
B Metaphor
C Personification
D Hyperbole

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Focus Assessment for
Figurative Language

Maniac Magee
Book Club Focus Assessment

Figurative Language

Directions: Use what you know about **Maniac Magee** to answer each of the following questions.

When Grayson buys Krimpets for Maniac, the text says, "Maniac thought he must have climbed out of that buffalo pen right into Heaven" (page 84). What connotation do the words in this sentence provide to this scene?

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: The words "climbed ... right into Heaven" provide a connotation of bliss, peacefulness, and thankfulness.

In Chapter 27, Jerry Spinelli uses figurative language to tell about what it was like for Grayson to learn to read. What tone is portrayed by the author's choice of words?

☒ Enthusiastic
B Gloomy
C Depressed
D Lonely

When Maniac discovers Russel and Lester using his baseball glove as a football, he gets really upset. The text says, "He popped off for a good ten minutes, got it all out" (page 156). Re-write this sentence to change the tone from angry to calm.

Answers will vary. Sample answers include: He talked to the boys about not touching his special glove.

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Answer Key

Figurative Language Focus Assessment Rubric

Student: _____ Date: _____

CCSS Reading Literature Standard 6.4
Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.

Levels	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Secure
Correct Answers	0 – 1 Correct	2 – 3 Correct	4 – 5 Correct	6 Correct
Specific Skill: Determine the meaning of figurative language	Was not able or is beginning to explain how figurative language is used in the text.	Was able to identify and understand figurative language in the text some of the time.	Was able to identify and understand figurative language in the text most of the time.	Was able to consistently identify and understand figurative language in the text.

If student is less than secure, he or she needs to work on the following:

- Identify various types of figurative language including similes, metaphors, hyperbole, personification, idioms, and symbolism.
- Interpret the meaning of figurative language including similes, metaphors, hyperbole, personification, idioms, and symbolism.
- Understand the impact of figurative language on meaning, tone, and connotation.

Book Club
Maniac Magee

CCSS:ELA-LITERACY:RL.6.4 Maniac Magee Book Club | @BookPagez.com

Rubric with Optional
Common Core Alignment