

Anticipation Guide : *Elements of a Short Story*

Name _____ **Date** _____

Before reading pages 22-23: In the space to the left of each statement, place a check mark (✓) if you agree or think the statement is true.

During or after reading: Add new check marks or cross through those about which you have changed your mind. Keep in mind that this is not like the traditional “worksheet.” You may have to put on your thinking caps and “read between the lines.” Use the space under each statement to note the page(s), and paragraph(s) where you are finding information to support your thinking.

___ 1. The plot of a story is what happens in the story, and it usually has four parts to it.

___ 2. No story would be good without some conflict, or struggle, taking place.

___ 3. The conflict in a story could be within a person’s own mind, or it could be between a person and a thing, or it could be between two people.

___ 4. In most stories, the plot gets complicated – something happens to make solving the problem even more difficult than it appeared at the beginning.

___ 5. The most exciting part of the story is the climax when the conflict comes to a head and is going to be decided one way or the other.

___ 6. “And they all lived happily ever after.” is an example of a resolution of a story.

___ 7. When two people read the same story, they will usually understand it in the same way if it was well written.

___ 8. The theme of a story is usually not written directly in the story, but is in the mind of the reader.

___ 9. There is no way to exactly identify the author’s theme in a story.

___ 10. Short stories are better than novels.