

# **A Teaching Unit For *Hoot***

**Carl Hiaasen**



## **ELA Core Plans**

Teacher-Written Standards-Based Lesson Plans



**DO NOT PHOTOCOPY**  
(Except for your own classroom)



**DO NOT POST ONLINE.**

# *Teaching Unit* *Hoot*

Carl Hiaasen

By Tammy D. Lewis and Shannon B. Temple  
ELA Core Plans

[www.elacoreplans.com](http://www.elacoreplans.com)

Copyright © 2008 S&T Publications, LLC  
2<sup>nd</sup> edition

Limited reproduction permission: For each textbook purchased, S&T Publications grants permission for only one teacher to make as many copies as needed for his or her classes. Reproduction by/for other teachers, classes, or for commercial use is strictly prohibited.

Order number LS0710

S&T Publications, LLC

# ***Hoot Teaching Unit***

## ***Table of Contents***

Prereading Activity.....	4
Chapter 1: Conflict, Point of View, and Irony.....	5
Chapter 2: Examine Word Choice.....	6
Chapter 3: Suspense and Tone.....	7
Chapter 4: Voice.....	8
Chapter 5: Vivid Descriptions.....	9
Chapter 6: Wanted Poster.....	10
Test on Chapters 1-7.....	11
Chapter 8: Creating Realistic Characters through Dialogue.....	16
Chapter 9: Using Context Clues.....	17
Chapter 10: Characterization ~Leon and Lonna.....	18
Chapter 11: Discussion Questions & Cliffhanger Endings.....	19
Chapter 12: Irony and Flashback.....	20
Test on chapters 8-12.....	21
Chapter 13: Figurative language, Imagery, Conflict.....	25
Chapter 14: Writing Opportunity: Business Letter.....	26
Chapter 16: Inside/Out Profile, Discussion Questions.....	28
Chapter 17: Writing Opportunity: News Report.....	29
Test on Chapters 13-17.....	31
Propaganda Techniques.....	34
Chapter 18: Create an Advertisement (Using propaganda techniques).....	35
Chapter 20: Writing Opportunity: Comic Strip.....	36
Chapters 21-Epilogue: Symbolism.....	38
Who's Who When it Comes to Characters.....	39
Theme, Developing Mottos.....	40
Final Test.....	41
Compare & Contrast.....	46
Hoot Project.....	47
Writing Prompts .....	48

# Hoot

## Pre-reading Activities

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Anticipation Guide

Read each of the following statements. Place a T beside the statements that you think are true and an F beside statements that you think are false.

If you know something is going to happen to the environment that you know is wrong, you should do something to keep it from happening. \_\_\_\_\_

It is okay to lie if your fib helps a good cause. \_\_\_\_\_

You should always stand up to bullies. \_\_\_\_\_

There is nothing I can do to help an animal or plant that is in danger of becoming extinct. \_\_\_\_\_

### Writing Response

In *Hoot*, one person leaves his family and lives alone in the outdoors. Think about what it would be like to be homeless and on your own without anyone to care for you. What would you need to survive? What traits do you have that may help you survive or not survive? Complete the following chart with things that you would need to live on your own and a list of words that describe your personality. Then, write a paragraph telling whether or not you think you could make it.

Things I would need	My personality traits

---

---

---

---

---

# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 1**

### **Conflict, Point of View, and Irony**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Conflict**

There are two plots that are emerging in this chapter. One plot involves Roy, and the other plot involves Officer David Delinko. Use the following chart to summarize the complications that arise in chapter one for each character.

<b>Character's Name</b>	<b>Conflict</b>	<b>Type of Conflict</b>
Roy		
Officer Delinko		

#### **Point of View**

Though it is only the first chapter, the reader can already tell the point of view that is used in this novel. Complete the following chart on point of view.

<b>Point of view used in this book</b>	<b>Evidence that proves I am right on the point of view</b>	<b>Advantages of this point of view</b>

#### **Irony**

Verbal irony involves a contrast between what is said or written and what is meant. Example: if you call a really tall person, "Shorty".

Situational irony occurs when what happens is very different from what is expected to happen. Example: A man who has been afraid to fly in a plane all of his life finally gets the courage to do it, and then the plane crashes.

Dramatic irony occurs when the audience or the reader knows something a character does not know. Example: The reader knows who the criminal is, but the characters do not know.

**1. Why is Curly's name an example of verbal irony?**

**2. It is ironic that Garrett's mother is a guidance counselor at Trace Middle. What type of irony is this?**

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 2**  
**Examine Word Choice**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Carl Hiaasen's word choice is nothing short of excellent in this novel. Let's take a look at it in chapter two.

**Complete the following chart by looking at each provided page and finding words, phrases, or sentences that paint a picture in your mind, linger in your memory, or that you think are just “cool ways to say something”.**

Page Number	Word, Phrase, or Sentence	Why I like it
14		
15		
16		
17		

**Turn to page 21. Find the fifth paragraph that begins with *He had missed his morning classes....* Finally, list the words and phrases from the paragraph that help create imagery.**

---

---

---

---

**Write a paragraph about another school meal using your own descriptive words, phrases, and strong verbs.**

---

---

---

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 3**  
**Suspense and Tone**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The author of this book knows when to slow the action down to add suspense. Read the following paragraph.

*Officer Delinko asked, “Can I check out your latrines?”*

*“Sure, but there ain’t much to wreck on a port-a-potty,” Officer Delinko went in, shined his flashlight into the toilet hole and saw alligators!*

The action in this chapter is not written like the above passage, and thankfully so! If it were, it would lack suspense. Complete the following chart to figure out what the author did to create suspense.

Actions before alligators are revealed to the reader	How this adds suspense

**Tone**

Roy’s mother said that the tone of Roy’s letter was “forceful”. What other words could you say describe the tone of this letter? Rewrite the letter using another tone. You could use an angry tone, a sarcastic tone, an apologetic tone, or one of your choosing.

Dear Dana,

---

---

---

---

---

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 4**  
**Beatrice and her Barbecue Sandwich**  
**Voice**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Go back and read the episode when Roy confronts Beatrice in the lunchroom. Pay attention to what happens to her barbecue sandwich. Write down in order what happens to the sandwich.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Who could this sandwich symbolize? How does the description of the sandwich add to the tone?

**What is Voice?**

Voice is the “energy” of a piece of writing. It is what makes a story or other piece of writing fun to read. It is what makes the reader laugh out loud, smile to him/herself, or want to cry. Voice creates a response in the reader. This novel is full of voice, and that is evident every time you laugh out loud or smile to yourself. Go back and choose your favorite parts of the book so far. Most likely, these passages contain voice.

**My favorite passages:**

Page _____
Page _____

One way to create voice in narrative writing is through characters. Carl Hiaasen brings each of his characters to life by giving them voice. Each character has his/her own distinct personality, and we are able to reveal their personalities largely because of what they say. Read the following statement made in this chapter by Dana’s mother. After reading this, what can you infer about Mrs. Matherson?

*Dana’s shoulders stiffened. His mother clucked in amusement. “You gotta be kiddin’! This little twerp is the one who messed up your face?”*

Inference about Mrs. Matherson \_\_\_\_\_



# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 5**

### **Vivid Descriptions / Imagery**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**There are certainly vivid descriptions in this book, and Roy's encounter with the snakes is no exception to Carl Hiaasen's creative imagery. Reread the passage on page 51 that begins with *They had broad...* paying attention to the descriptive words.**

**Write a poem about snakes taking some of the descriptive language that Hiaasen used. Here is a list of words and phrases from the passage you may want to consider using:**

*broad triangular heads*  
*muck-colored*  
*ominously plump.*  
*highly poisonous.*  
*no rattles*  
*stubby tails*  
*dipped in blue and silver sparkles*  
*fat reptiles untangled themselves*  
*tongues flicking*  
*coiled sluggishly*

**Your poem does not need to rhyme. Your poem can be about the snakes that Roy encounters or just about snakes in general.**

Roy's encounter with these snakes causes him to have a flashback. Reread the episode when Roy has this flashback. Why does the author choose to tell us this story? What do we learn about Roy from the flashback?

---

---

**Make a list of any words or phrases used in the flashback that create imagery in the passage.**

***Hoot***  
**After Chapter 6**  
***Wanted Poster***

Make a “wanted” poster for the running boy. Draw a picture of the running boy in the middle. Use the descriptions in the book to help you with this. Since we do not know his name, just write “Running Boy” under the picture.

**WANTED**



\_\_\_\_\_

***Description:*** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

***Last seen:*** \_\_\_\_\_

# ***Hoot***

## Test chapters 1-7

1. Why would Curly say, “What owls?” when asked about the burrowing owls?
  - a. He had no idea what Officer Delinko was talking about.
  - b. He did not know that owls were on his property.
  - c. He knew about them, but he was not worried about what happened to the owls.
  - d. He wanted to do everything he could to protect the owls.
2. What made Miss Hennepin eventually believe Roy’s story?
  - a. She talked with Roy’s parents.
  - b. She saw a note that Dana had written to harass Roy.
  - c. She saw marks on Roy’s neck.
  - d. She believed Roy’s explanation of the fight.
3. *The boy was still far ahead of him [Roy]. And Roy was gulping like a beached trout.*  
What is being compared in this simile?
  - a. Roy is being compared to a beach.
  - b. The boy ahead of Roy is being compared to a beached trout.
  - c. The way Roy is breathing is being compared to a beached trout.
  - d. The way Roy looks is being compared to a beached trout.
4. Which of the following words best describe Mullet Fingers?
  - a. lonely and sad
  - b. brave and unconventional
  - c. timid and reserved
  - d. arrogant and greedy

*It turned out that Curly’s real name was Leroy Branitt, and he was the “supervising engineer” of the construction project. He scowled when he saw the policeman write down “foreman” instead.*

5. In the above passage, *supervising engineer* is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ for *foreman*.
  - a. euphemism
  - b. oxymoron
  - c. metaphor
  - d. symbol
6. How did the running boy get the name Mullet Fingers?
  - a. His fingers (and body) smell like a mullet.
  - b. He lost a finger in a fishing accident.
  - c. He tried to feed a mullet a finger.
  - d. He can catch a mullet with his hand.

7. Who is Beatrice Leep's step-brother?
- Dana Matherson
  - David Delinko
  - Mullet Fingers
  - She does not have one.
8. The main character of Hoot is \_\_\_\_\_.
- Roy
  - Beatrice Leep
  - Dana Matherson
  - b and c

**Read the following passage, and then answer questions 9-10.** *The boy was straw-blond and wiry, and his skin was nut-brown from the sun. The expression on his face was intent and serious. He wore a faded Miami Heat basketball jersey and dirty khaki shorts, and here was the odd part: no shoes. The soles of his feet looked as black as barbecue coals.*

9. What literary device is employed in the passage?
- flashback
  - imagery
  - hyperbole
  - symbolism
10. The passage appeals most strongly to \_\_\_\_\_.
- basketball fans
  - the sense of sight
  - the sense of touch
  - students
11. Why did Officer Delinko give Roy his card?
- Officer Delinko wanted Roy to teach him how to ride a bike.
  - Officer Delinko wanted Roy to call him in case of an emergency.
  - Officer Delinko wanted Roy to get his mother to write a thank-you note.
  - Officer Delinko wanted Roy to call him if he ever heard a kid talking about the Mother Paula's Construction Site.
12. Which of the following best describes Officer Delinko?
- good hearted, but a little gawky/goofy
  - timid and quiet
  - intelligent and a perfectionist
  - smug and sneaky

13. Garrett thinks that Roy is going to get beaten up badly when Dana comes back. What does this show about Garrett and his support for Roy?
- that Garrett is a really good friend and will help Roy if he needs it
  - that Garrett has little faith in Roy's ability to defend himself
  - that Garrett is betting against Roy in hopes of making some money
  - that Garrett does not like Roy at all
14. True or false? Roy decided not to write the apology letter to Dana.
- true
  - false
15. How do Roy and his parents find out about the police cruiser windows getting painted?
- the newspaper
  - Garrett told Roy
  - the Department of Justice
  - a middle school rumor
16. Who is "Cowgirl"?
- Mullet Fingers
  - David Delinko
  - Roy
  - Dana
17. What can the reader infer about Mullet Fingers?
- He is self-reliant.
  - He is knowledgeable about nature.
  - He is fast and has quick thinking.
  - all of the above
18. In the story, Beatrice bites \_\_\_\_\_.
- Roy's cookie in half
  - Roy's rear bike tire
  - a barbeque sandwich
  - a pancake
19. Which of the following best describes Beatrice at this point in the book?
- kind-hearted
  - compassionate
  - witty
  - demanding

20. *Traffic was steady in both directions, creeping through the standing water.* This sentence contains which of the following types of figurative language?
- a. simile
  - b. metaphor
  - c. personification
  - d. hyperbole

*“I probably shouldn’t tell you this,” said Garrett, “but some of the kids are taking bets.”*  
*“Great. They’re betting on whether Dana’s going to beat me up?”*

21. When Roy responds, “Great”, he is using \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. verbal irony
  - b. situational irony
  - c. dramatic irony
  - d. a metaphor
22. Roy’s conflict with Dana Matherson is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. internal
  - b. external

***Hoot***  
**Answer Key Test Chapters 1-7**

<b>Question #</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>c</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>c</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>c</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>b</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>a</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>d</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>c</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>a</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>b</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>b</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>d</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>a</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>b</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>b</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>a</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>c</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>d</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>b</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>d</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>c</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>a</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>b</b>

# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 8**

### **Creating Realistic Characters through Dialogue**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

When writing a narrative, it is important that your characters seem believable and realistic. One way to do this is through dialogue. The way a character speaks should match his/her personality. Carl Hiaasen does a stupendous job making his characters realistic, especially through how they speak and what they say.

In chapter eight, we are introduced to a new character, Kalo, and what fun it is to read his dialogue. Kalo speaks with a foreign accent, and Hiaasen writes it so that the reader is able to read it just like Kalo should sound. “I lock up za fence. I come back tomorrow early, to get za dogs.” By using “za” instead of “the” the reader now has a foreign accent! It is brilliant, and it is a technique you should remember if you ever want a character that you develop to speak with a foreign accent.

In addition, our funny bones are tickled as we read Dana’s words with a lisp. “Did you jutht hit me?” The “jutht” makes our tongues pronounce the word just like Dana would with a busted lip. It is hilarious!

#### **Discussion:**

1. How does Kalo’s dialogue make him a realistic/believable character?
2. How does Dana’s lisp affect the tone at this point of the story?

Write a dialogue between Dana and Kalo about a topic of your own choosing. Try to capture their voices and personalities based upon what you know of them so far. In your dialogue, continue to have Dana speak with a lisp. Use chapter eight to help you.

**Dana** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kalo** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dana** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kalo** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dana** \_\_\_\_\_

**Kalo** \_\_\_\_\_



***Hoot***  
**Chapter 9**  
**Using Context Clues**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**You can really build your vocabulary by reading books like *Hoot*! Let's take a look at some words that you can learn by using context clues.**

**Read each of the following sentences from chapter nine. Use context clues to figure out the best meaning of the bolded words.**

1. Even if Roy managed to **elude** Dana Matherson this afternoon, the drama would start all over again Monday.
  - a. see
  - b. avoid
  - c. annoy
  - d. defeat
2. Dana and his **cronies** customarily occupied the back rows and seldom bothered the kids sitting up near the driver.
  - a. classmates
  - b. brothers
  - c. friends
  - d. enemies
3. "Let's be crystal-clear about this, Mr. Branitt. You didn't report it to the police?"  
"No, sir," Curly said **emphatically** into the telephone.
  - a. forcefully
  - b. calmly
  - c. sorrowfully
  - d. sarcastically
4. "So there shouldn't be any paperwork, correct? No possible way for this latest **travesty** to end up in the press?"
  - a. accomplishment
  - b. mockery
  - c. news
  - d. sadness
5. The dog trainer then had hauled him toward the fence to point out another moccasin, then another, and still another – nine in all. Curly had been **flabbergasted**.
  - a. distracted
  - b. afraid
  - c. worried
  - d. shocked
6. "Thanks for all your help," Curly had said **snidely**, and slammed the trailer door.
  - a. somberly
  - b. casually
  - c. insultingly
  - d. peacefully

# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 10 Characterization ~ Leon and Lonna**

1. **DIRECT CHARACTERIZATION** - The writer makes direct statements about a character's personality and tells what the character is like.

2. **INDIRECT CHARACTERIZATION** - The writer reveals information about a character and his personality through that character's thoughts, words, and actions, along with how other characters respond to that character, including what they think and say about him.

**Reread pages 114-116.** Complete the following charts with as many personality traits as you can about each character, and then decide if the author used direct characterization or if you concluded something about a character through indirect characterization.

<i><b>Leon's Traits</b></i>	<i><b>Evidence (Quote from the book)</b></i>	<i><b>Type of characterization</b></i>
lazy	...not much enthusiasm for steady work (pg. 114)	direct

<i><b>Lonna's Traits</b></i>	<i><b>Evidence (Quote from the book)</b></i>	<i><b>Type of characterization</b></i>

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 11**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Discussion Questions**

1. In this chapter, Officer Delinko spots a piece of green fabric in the wire mesh over the fence at the construction site. What does this cause you to predict?
  
2. What did Curly do when he kicked open the door of the bathroom?
  
3. What does Officer Delinko reveal about himself when he asks Mr. Eberhardt to write him a note for his personal file?
  
4. Why does Beatrice not want to take her brother to the doctor?

**Cliffhanger Endings**

Carl Hiaasen seems to enjoy ending his chapters with cliffhanging endings, which leave the reader wondering what will happen next. What clues in chapter eleven might help you predict what will happen in chapter twelve?

**Chapter 12 Irony & Flashback**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Irony**

*“Sometimes he runs away from home,” Beatrice said quietly, “and he doesn’t come back for a while.”*

*It was the closest thing to a true answer that she’d given and, ironically, it was the one that made Dr. Gonzalez back off.*

**Why is this statement that Beatrice gives Dr. Gonzalez ironic?**

**What type of irony is used here?**

- a. situational irony
- b. dramatic irony
- c. verbal irony
- d. all of the above

*The clerk went pale. “I’m r-r-reporting you to my s-s-su-supervisor.”*

*“**That’s a dandy idea.**” Mr. Eberhardt brushed past and started down the hall, guiding his wife by the elbow.*

**Mr. Eberhardt’s bolded response to the clerk in this passage contains which of the following types of irony?**

- a. situational irony
- b. dramatic irony
- c. verbal irony
- d. all of the above

**Flashback**

Summarize the flashback on page 145. What do we learn about Roy from this flashback?

Summary: \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

Author’s Purpose for including this Flashback (What we learned about Roy):

# ***Hoot***

## **Test Chapters 8-12**

1. **How did Mullet Fingers get hurt?**
  - a. He was run over by the bull dozer.
  - b. He was bit by a dog.
  - c. He was sick from eating raw hamburger meat.
  - d. He was bitten by a snake.
2. **Why did Curly shoot his gun inside the trailer?**
  - a. He thought he saw a mouse.
  - b. He was angry because the toilet wasn't working.
  - c. He was shooting to scare Mullet Fingers away.
  - d. He heard something in the bathroom and shot before thinking.
3. **Why did Roy's parents think their son was hurt?**
  - a. They received a phone call saying he was in the hospital.
  - b. They saw that his sweatshirt had been torn.
  - c. Officer Delinko told them that their son had been hurt.
  - d. They saw dogs attack him.
4. **Why did Kalo remove his dogs from the construction site?**
  - a. They were harmful to the owls.
  - b. Curley had fed them raw hamburger meat.
  - c. They were mistreated by the vandals.
  - d. Snakes were on the property.
5. **Who saved Roy from Dana's assault in the janitor's closet?**
  - a. Beatrice
  - b. Mullet Fingers
  - c. Mr. Ryan
  - d. Garrett
6. **Dramatic irony is more commonly used in plays and movies than in novels. It refers to a situation in which one character is unaware of something that the other characters or the reader know. What is ironic about Mrs. Eberhardt's conversation with Officer Delinko when he brings Roy home from being stranded with a flat tire in the rain?**
  - a. Officer Delinko knows that she is referring to him when she asks about the police car getting spray painted, but Mrs. Eberhardt has no idea it is him.
  - b. Officer Delinko knows about the car being spray painted, but Mrs. Eberhardt has not heard about the incident at all.
  - c. The reader knows that it was Officer Delinko's car that got spray painted, but the officer nor Mrs. Eberhardt know it.
  - d. Officer Delinko and Mrs. Eberhardt both know it is him who got his car painted.
7. **Read the following passage: *It was obvious to Roy that Beatrice was experienced at fibbing to grownups. Mrs. Eberhardt fell for the whole yarn.* What is the meaning of *yarn* as it is used in this sentence?**
  - a. a textile fiber for use in weaving
  - b. a strand of material
  - c. an interesting or exciting (often made-up) story
  - d. none of the above

8. **Read the following passage:** *When Curly told his wife of his overnight guard duties, she received the news with no trace of annoyance or concern. Her mother was in town visiting, and the two of them had planned numerous shopping excursions for Saturday and Sunday. **Curly's charming presence would not be missed.*** What type of irony is used in the bolded part of this passage?
- situational
  - verbal
  - dramatic
  - none of these
9. **When Curly packed for his night in the construction site trailer, he packed a jumbo bottle of aspirin. What can you infer from this?**
- Curly always thinks something is wrong with him.
  - Curly anticipates trouble at the site.
  - Curly has high blood pressure.
  - Snakes always give Curly headaches.
10. **After seeing Roy waving to him in the middle of the street and then run into the woods, David Delinko goes \_\_\_\_\_.**
- back to work
  - to the construction site
  - to the school
  - to the Eberhardt's
11. **Read the following passage:** *Other kids could be really curious about that gory stuff, but not Roy. Once, when he was seven years old and his family lived near Milwaukee, a drunken hunter drove a snowmobile full-speed into an old birch tree. The accident happened only a hundred yards from a slope where Roy and his father were sledding.* What literary device is used in this passage?
- foreshadowing
  - flashback
  - symbolism
  - irony
12. *The dead man was soaked with blood and twisted at odd angles, like a broken G.I. Joe doll.* What literary devices are used in this passage?
- simile and imagery
  - metaphor and imagery
  - personification and imagery
  - simile and hyperbole
13. **When Officer Delinko rode by the construction site to try and look at the dogs, he found \_\_\_\_\_ hanging on the fence.**
- flowery material
  - green fabric
  - snake skin
  - owl feathers
14. **The object on the fence came from \_\_\_\_\_.**
- the cottonmouth
  - burrowing owls
  - Mother Paula's apron
  - Mullet Finger's shirt
15. **Which word best describes Chuck Muckle's feelings toward Curly?**
- proud
  - unsatisfied
  - sympathetic
  - humored

16. **Who is the spokesperson for the Mother Paula Pancake house?**
  - a. Beatrice Leep
  - b. Kimberly Lou Dixon
  - c. Chuck Muckle
  - d. Leroy Branitt
17. **What name did Mullet Fingers use to get admitted to the hospital?**
  - a. Garrett
  - b. Dana
  - c. Roy
  - d. None of the above
18. **“He’s a tough little cockroach.” What type of figurative language is used in this sentence?**
  - a. hyperbole
  - b. idiom
  - c. metaphor
  - d. simile
19. **How did the Eberhardts get to the ER to check on Roy?**
  - a. by ambulance
  - b. by taxi
  - c. by a police car
  - d. by truck
20. **What is Mullet Finger’s motive for vandalizing the Mother Paula’s property?**
  - a. He wants to get revenge on Curly.
  - b. He likes playing pranks on people.
  - c. He wants to save the owls.
  - d. He enjoys scaring people with reptiles.
21. **According the book’s description, which of the following best describes Beatrice’s father?**
  - a. highly motivated
  - b. self disciplined
  - c. lazy
  - d. mean
22. **Which of the following best describes Mullet Finger’s mother?**
  - a. compassionate
  - b. selfish
  - c. motherly
  - d. conceited
23. **Who was the Rottweiler’s trainer?**
  - a. Roy’s dad
  - b. Curly
  - c. Kalo
  - d. Chuck

***Hoot***  
**Answer Key Test Chapters 8-12**

<b>Question #</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>19</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>23</b>	<b>C</b>



# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 13**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Discussion:**

*It was a calm cloudless night, and a pale sliver of moon peeked over the rooftops. Insects as thick as confetti swirled around the cowls of the streetlights. Toward the end of the block, two cats could be heard yowling at each other.*

**1. This passage is full of imagery, and it includes both figurative language and a sound device. Identify each of the following from this passage by writing each one on the line provided.**

Simile \_\_\_\_\_

Personification \_\_\_\_\_

Onomatopoeia \_\_\_\_\_

**Imagery** is present when a writer uses his/her words to appeal to our five senses. The *pale sliver of moon* and *insects as thick as confetti* paint a picture in our minds. The *yowling cats* allow us to hear what Roy and his father hear. Let's see if you can write a passage that uses both figurative language and imagery as this passage does. On the following lines, describe the night as if it were cold and snowy when Roy and his father took the walk.

---

---

---

---

**2. Go back and read the top of page 159. Roy is reading a book titled *A Land Remembered*. How is this book relevant to the conflict of *Hoot*?**

---

---

---

*"Honey, sometimes you're going to be faced with situations where the line isn't clear between what's right and what's wrong. Your heart will tell you to do one thing, and your brain will tell you to do something different. In the end, all that's left is to look at both sides and go with your best judgment."*

**3. This statement could be one of the themes from this novel. How is this statement linked with the main conflict in this novel?**

---

---

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Beatrice received a form letter from the vice president for corporate relations of Mother Paula's Pancake House. It is obvious from this letter that those at Mother Paula's are not truly concerned about the owls. The owls are not even mentioned in the letter.

Your assignment is to write a letter that Mullet Fingers would want to receive from Chuck Muckle. You will write to Beatrice from Chuck Muckle, but instead of using a distant, form-writing tone, use a sympathetic tone, and tell what you will do to assure that the owls are taken care of before the construction of Mother Paula's.

**First, take a look at the parts of a business letter. Then, use the sample letter to help you write your own.**

**Business Letter Parts (Block Style Format):**

In order from top to bottom:

- Return address – address of letter writer (First and last name, address, city, state and zip code)
- The date
- Inside address – of recipient (who you are writing the letter to) First and last name, title, Company, address, city, state and zip code.
- Salutation – “Dear Mrs. Leep:”
- Body of Letter – This is the purpose of the letter. It should be clear and concise.
- Closing – “Sincerely,”
- Signature

## Sample Buisness Letter Format

Beatrice Leep  
1234 West Oriole Street  
Coconut Cove, FL 12345

January 10, 2008

Dear Ms. Leep:

The first paragraph of a typical business letter is used to state the main point of the letter. Begin with a friendly opening; then quickly transition into the purpose of your letter. Use a couple of sentences to explain the purpose, but do not go in to detail until the next paragraph.

Beginning with the second paragraph, state the supporting details that support your purpose. These may take the form of background information, statistics or first-hand accounts. A few short paragraphs within the body of the letter should be enough to support your reasoning.

Finally, in the closing paragraph, briefly restate your purpose and why it is important. You can thank your reader for his/her time in this part of the letter.

Sincerely,

Chuck E. Muckle

Vice-President for Corporate Relations

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 16**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Inside/Out Profile

Let's take a closer look at Beatrice after this chapter. On the following chart, make a list of adjectives that describe how Beatrice seems to others. Next to each adjective, write a word that suggests her inner emotions, thoughts, and values. This way we can examine her from the inside out and really get to know her.

Beatrice's Outside (adjectives)	Beatrice on the inside (her inner emotions, thoughts, and/or values)

## Discussion

1. How is Roy's opinion of Florida changing? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

---

---

---

---

2. After Roy's airboat trip through the Everglades, Roy felt a stronger connection to Mullet Fingers and a "*better understanding of the boy's private crusade against the pancake house.*"(page 205) What made Roy have this stronger connection?

---

---

---

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 17**  
**Writing Opportunity**

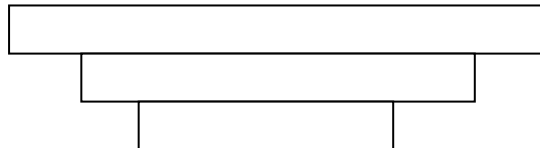
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

In this chapter, the headline for the story on Dana Matherson's arrest is mentioned, but the news story is not in the book. Following the headline and the details given in the book about what took place at Mother Paula's, write the news report.

Read the following information on writing a news report before you start.

- A news report is based on facts. Do not include your opinions.
- The first paragraph contains the most important information: Who? What? When? Where? Why? And How?
- It is arranged in an "inverted pyramid" style:



This means that facts are arranged from most important to least important. It allows you to see a lot of information quickly in the first couple of paragraphs. The least important facts are near the end.

Answer these questions in the lead of your news report:

1. Who is it about?
2. What happened?
3. When did it happen?
4. Where did it happen?
5. Why did it happen?
6. How did it happen?

Remember, not everyone knows what the reader knows. Write only what would appear in the *Coconut Cove Newspaper*. You cannot say that Roy set Dana up for the arrest, because authorities do not know this. You can, however, make up a statement that one of the characters like Dana or Curly would say for the article.

**HeadLine: Local Youth Nabbed in Break-in Attempt**

## Newspaper Article Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria	Possible Points	Points Earned
Article based on Dana Matherson's arrest	10	
Article gives facts and not opinions	15	
Article tells: Who _____ What _____ When _____ Why _____ Where _____	50	
Organized, article "makes sense"	15	
Neat, well written with few (if any) spelling or grammatical errors	10	
Bonus: pictures, made to look like a "real" newspaper article, dateline/byline used correctly	10	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110</b>	

## ***Hoot***

### **Test Chapters 13-17**

*Roy nudged the conversation back toward the delicate subject of Mullet Fingers. He needed to know where his father stood.*

1. Which of the following definitions of *stood* is used in the above sentence?
  - a. to rise to an upright position
  - b. to remain stationary or inactive
  - c. a position or opinion one is prepared to uphold
  - d. to keep or maintain

*Roy's father stood up slowly as if the weight of a hundred bricks were on his shoulders.*

2. What type of figurative language is used in this passage?
  - a. idiom
  - b. metaphor
  - c. personification
  - d. simile

*An hour later, he was half dozing when he heard a tap-tap on the bedroom door.*

3. What sound device is employed in the above passage?
  - a. alliteration
  - b. onomatopoeia
  - c. rhyme
  - d. none of these
4. What did Mullet Fingers do with his shirt when he left the hospital?
  - a. He left it in the X-ray department.
  - b. He left it on Officer Delinko's patrol car.
  - c. He left it with Roy.
  - d. He left it on his hospital bed.

*Roy still hadn't settled the argument between his brain and his heart. Surely there had to be a way for him to help the birds – and Beatrice's stepbrother – without breaking the law.*

5. What type of conflict is Roy struggling with in this passage?
  - a. internal
  - b. external
  - c. both
  - d. natural
6. Which of the following words best describe Leon Leep?
  - a. dedicated, self-motivated
  - b. diligent, bossy
  - c. impassive, lazy
  - d. intelligent, hateful

*Roy believed Lonna was skating on thin ice.*

7. Which of the following types of figurative language is used in this sentence?
  - a. hyperbole
  - b. idiom
  - c. metaphor
  - d. personification

*Mom made me promise not to tell. It's supposed to be a secret, since Dana's still a minor."*

*"Right," said Roy. "You wouldn't want to ruin his fine reputation."*

8. Which type of irony is used in this sentence?  
a. verbal      b. dramatic      c. situational      d. all of the above
9. What does Roy find out that the burrowing owls eat?  
a. hamburger meat  
b. insects  
c. leaves  
d. soil
10. When Roy shows up at Dana Matherson's house, what does Dana's father assume?  
a. Roy is coming to listen to music with Dana.  
b. Roy is coming to work on a science project with Dana.  
c. Roy is coming to collect money for doing Dana's homework.  
d. Roy is coming to give another apology letter to Dana.
11. What do Dana Matherson and Mullet Fingers have in common?  
a. a dislike of shoes  
b. a concern for the environment  
c. speed  
d. unfit mothers

*Although the airboat was very fast, the ride across the shallows was like gliding on silk.*

*Again Roy was astounded by the immense flatness of the terrain, the lush horizons, and the exotic abundance of life.*

12. Which of the following is used in this passage?  
a. imagery and a metaphor  
b. imagery and a simile  
c. imagery and alliteration  
d. personification and symbolism
13. Who is Molly Bell?  
a. Roy's grandmother  
b. Dana Matherson's mother  
c. the name of the place where Mullet Fingers hides  
d. the name of a crab boat
14. What does Roy do that infuriates Dana?  
a. He steals his cigarettes.  
b. He chases him.  
c. He calls him a name.  
d. He moons him.

*"Looks more like a lump of mud to me," Chuck Muckle said. "Boy's got quite an imagination doesn't he?" he added snidely.*

15. We can conclude that Chuck is rude and sarcastic from this comment. What type of characterization is used in this passage?  
a. direct      b. indirect      c. first person      d. none of these



***Hoot***  
**Answer Key Test Chapters 13-17**

<b>Question #</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>A</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>C</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>B</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>B</b>

## ***Propaganda Techniques***

**Propaganda:** An extreme form of persuasion for the purpose of getting people to do certain things or think a certain way. Propaganda appeals to emotions rather than to intellect, and many times, only one side of a situation is presented. Complete the chart by filling in the example column with commercials that you have seen.

### **Types of Propaganda**

<b>Type</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Bandwagon</b>	An appeal for others to “join the crowd” in order to be on the “winning side”	
<b>Testimonial</b>	A famous person endorses a product, person, or idea	
<b>Card Stacking</b>	Presenting only the positive information and leaving out anything that may be negative	
<b>Glittering Generalities</b>	Emotionally appealing words are used to describe a product or idea, but no evidence is given to support it	
<b>Name Calling</b>	The use of words that have a negative connotation	
<b>Plain Folks</b>	The use of common, ordinary people are used to promote a product	
<b>Rewards</b>	The use of gimmicks, rebates, free toys, etc. to promote and sell a product	
<b>Emotional Appeal</b>	The use of fear, humor, something sad, etc. to get your attention and remember a product	

**Name**\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**\_\_\_\_\_

**Look back at the advertisement for Mother Paula’s on pages 234-235. What types of propaganda are used in this advertisement?**

**Create your own advertisement persuading people to “Save the owls” from Mother Paula’s. Use at least two propaganda techniques in your ad.**



# ***Hoot***

## Advertisement Rubric

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria	Possible Points	Points Earned
<b>The overall effect of the advertisement is creative and works to “save the owls”</b>	20	
<b>Propaganda Technique 1</b>  _____	20	
<b>Propaganda Technique 2</b>  _____	20	
<b>Wording used in ad is free of errors and persuasive</b>	20	
<b>Neat</b>	10	
<b>Colorful</b>	10	
<b>TOTAL</b>	100	

# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 20**

### ***Writing Opportunity***

Create a comic strip for this chapter. Use this sheet to help you plan it. Draw pictures of the main events in this chapter, and use captions to help describe the action. Think of scenes and actions that occur, the characters that are present, the landscape and props, and make sure you pay attention to Hiaasen's imagery as you draw each scene. You may not need all of the boxes on this page.


# ***Hoot***

## Comic Strip Rubric



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Criteria	Possible Points	Points Earned
<b>Scene selection:</b> Includes all of the most important events from the chapter	15	
<b>Captions:</b> Captions are clearly related to both the scenes drawn and to the important events from the chapter. The captions are well written with few spelling, punctuation or grammar errors.	35	
<b>Characters:</b> Main characters from the chapter are included and their actions and dialogue in the comic strip match those from the chapter.	25	
<b>Background illustrations:</b> The illustrations are directly related to the imagery provided by the author and help the reader understand the scene.	25	
TOTAL	100	

***Hoot***  
***After the Epilogue***  
***Symbolism***

**A symbol is something that stands for something else, like our flag stands for our country. It is any object, person, place, or experience that means more than what it is.**

A literary symbol has literal meaning in a story but stands for something else.

**Discussion**

- 1. What does the owl symbolize in general? When you think of an owl, what comes to mind symbolically?**

---

---

- 2. What might the owls in this novel symbolize? Explain.**

---

---

---

- 3. It is evident in the epilogue that the mullet symbolize Mullet Fingers. Go back and reread the bottom of page 290 through the bottom of page 291. How do the mullet symbolize or represent Mullet Fingers?**

---

- 4. Can you think of anything else in this book that may be symbolic? Remember, if something is symbolic, it will most likely**

- *be repeated in the book***
- *be written in a memorable or vivid way***
- *be emphasized with imagery***
- *mean something else than what it is***

## ***Hoot***

### **Who's Who When it comes to Characters**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Four common types of characters in a work of fiction are as follows:**

- **The protagonist** – This person is the principal driver of the effort to achieve the story's goal.
- **The antagonist** – Usually, this is the “bad guy” or the villain who is opposed to the Protagonist's end goal. This person represents the drive to undermine success.
- **The Hero** – This is who the reader cheers for to see if they will win in the end. Sometimes, the hero and the protagonist is the same person, but sometimes they are two different people.
- **The Obstacle Character** – This character blocks or stands in the way of the protagonist, but is not necessarily the antagonist.

After reading about the different kinds of characters, think about the characters in *Hoot*. Can you match one of the characters from the novel with each of the types listed above? Explain your answers.

Who is the protagonist? Why?

Who is the antagonist? Why?

Who is the hero? Why?

Who is the obstacle character? Why?

### **Static or Dynamic?      Round or Flat?**

Which characters are dynamic in this novel?

Which characters are static?

List three round characters. List three flat characters.



# ***Hoot***

## **Theme**

### **Developing Mottos**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

A motto is a word or phrase that describes a principle that someone lives by. By thinking of mottos of different characters, you can reveal some of the themes from this novel. Here are some examples of mottos:

- Do not judge a person until you have walked a mile in his shoes.
- Don't put off until tomorrow what can be done today.
- Haste makes waste.

Think of two characters from the novel, and create mottos for those characters. Think about the character's personality, ambition, and goals, and make sure the motto is something that the character would want to live by. Your final mottos should be themes from the novel.

Complete the following banners with a character's name and motto.

Character:

Motto:

Character:

Motto:

# Hoot

## Final Test

*In the Leep driveway sat a dented old Suburban and a shiny new Camaro convertible.*

1. The cars in this passage are symbolic of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. Leon and Lonna Leep
  - b. Mr. and Mrs. Matherson
  - c. Rich people and poor people
  - d. Beatrice and Roy
2. What was Mullet Fingers' real name?
  - a. Brian Leep
  - b. Andrew M. Paul
  - c. Eugene Morrow
  - d. Napoleon Bridger
3. What was Mullet Fingers' last act of vandalism at the construction site?
  - a. covering all of the owl burrows
  - b. removing the driver's seats of the earthmoving equipment
  - c. destroying the chain link fence
  - d. emptying crickets onto the site
4. What did Officer Delinko use to trick Dana and convince himself that Dana was not the Mother Paula's vandal?
  - a. cigarettes
  - b. toy alligator
  - c. port-a-potty
  - d. crayons
5. Who is Miss Hennipen?
  - a. the vice principal at Trace Middle School
  - b. the guidance counselor at Trace Middle School
  - c. Chuck Muckle's secretary
  - d. Roy's history teacher
6. It is ironic that Kimberly Lou Dixon is in the Audubon Society. What type of irony is this?
  - a. Verbal irony
  - b. Dramatic irony
  - c. Situational irony
  - d. All of the above

*Roy had put the book on his Christmas list after it had settled a friendly wager between him and his father. One afternoon they had seen a large reddish brown raptor swoop down and catch a ground squirrel off a cattle range in the Gallatin River valley. Roy's father had bet him a milkshake that the bird was a young bald eagle whose crown feathers had not yet turned white, but Roy had said it was a fully grown golden eagle, more common on the dry prairies. Later, after visiting the Boezman Library and consulting Sibley, Roy's father conceded that Roy had been right.*

7. What or who does the Raptor symbolize in this passage?
  - a. the owls
  - b. Mother Paula's Company
  - c. Mullet Fingers
  - d. a foot race
8. What type of literary device is used in this passage?
  - a. flashback and foreshadowing
  - b. imagery and foreshadowing
  - c. allusion and characterization
  - d. none of the above
9. *The perfect decoy – that was Dana.* What makes this statement about Dana true?
  - a. He is predictable, slow, and gullible.
  - b. He is mean and selfish.
  - c. He is always looking for trouble.
  - d. He is calm, cool, and collected.

*Although the airboat was very fast, the ride across the shallows was like gliding on silk. Again, Roy was astounded by the immense flatness of the terrain, the lush horizons, and the exotic abundance of life. Once you got away from all the jillions of people, Florida was just as wild as Montana.*

10. Which of the following types of figurative language are used in the above passage?
  - a. simile and metaphor
  - b. simile and idiom
  - c. simile and hyperbole
  - d. simile and personification
11. Which of the following is a theme of Hoot?
  - a. Police officers help our society.
  - b. Sometimes you must do unconventional things to accomplish a goal.
  - c. Bullies must be stopped.
  - d. Mullet Fingers is a hero because of this work to save the owls.
12. Which of these is the part of the exposition of the novel?
  - a. Mullet Fingers buries himself in an owl burrow.
  - b. Roy is bullied by Dana and sees "the running boy".
  - c. Roy confronts Beatrice at lunch.
  - d. Roy gets hit in the head with a golf ball.

13. Why did Roy want to borrow his mom's digital camera?
  - a. to take a picture of Mullet Fingers for his dad
  - b. to take a picture of the owls
  - c. to take a picture of Beatrice's soccer team
  - d. to take a picture of the protest
14. What did Mullet Fingers have inside the bucket at the protest?
  - a. owl pellets
  - b. crickets
  - c. phony alligators
  - d. phony snakes
15. Which of the following best describes Roy?
  - a. brave and determined
  - b. helpful and levelheaded
  - c. compassionate and caring
  - d. all of the above
16. Kimberly Lou Dixon is a movie star. By using her as Mother Paula in advertisements, which of the following propaganda techniques is being used?
  - a. bandwagon
  - b. card stacking
  - c. testimonial
  - d. plain folks
17. Which of the following characters is the protagonist in this book?
  - a. Officer Delinko
  - b. Roy
  - c. Curly
  - d. Beatrice
18. Where did Curly find his gun the day after he caught Dana on his property?
  - a. in an owl burrow
  - b. in his trailer
  - c. in some bushes
  - d. in the portable toilet
19. Which of the following would not be a theme of this novel?
  - a. Sometimes you have to follow your heart.
  - b. You must fight for what you believe is right.
  - c. If at first you don't succeed, try again.
  - d. Beauty is only skin deep.
20. Carl Hiaasen uses the third person omniscient point of view. Which of the following is an advantage of this point of view?
  - a. The reader is able to know the thoughts and feelings of more than one character.
  - b. The reader is able to follow the main character more closely than others.
  - c. The conflict is more easily revealed.
  - d. The theme is more easily revealed.

21. According to the epilogue, how did Mullet Fingers escape from the juvenile detention center the last time?
- He jumped out of a bathroom window.
  - He hid in a laundry basket.
  - Roy helped him escape.
  - He dressed as a janitor.
22. How did Beatrice break her tooth?
- She bit a piece of metal.
  - She bit a ring.
  - She bit a rock.
  - She hit it on her bed post.

For numbers 23-27, decide whether each character is a round character or a flat character.

23. Mullet Fingers
- Round
  - Flat
24. Leon Leep
- Round
  - Flat
25. Beatrice Leep
- Round
  - Flat
26. Roy Eberhardt
- Round
  - Flat
27. Miss Hennepin
- Round
  - Flat

For numbers 28-33, tell which type of figurative language is used in each sentence.

28. *Beatrice's step-brother was a distant blur, a bronze-colored wisp vanishing into a snarled tree line.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom
29. *They were followed by a wobbly-legged youngster that looked as fragile as a Christmas ornament.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom
30. *Today the sun lit up the green soccer field like a neon carpet, and Roy was happy to peel off his T-shirt and bake.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom
31. *The quiet wrapped around him like a soft blanket.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Both a and c
32. *I'm going out on a limb here so you know what that means," the captain said.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom
33. *Roy's mouth was as dry as chalk.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom
34. *Within moments, a school of mullet erupted, sleek bars of silver shooting airborne again and again.*

What two things are being compared in this sentence?

- Moments and a school of mullet
- Mullet and sleek bars of silver
- Sleek bars of silver and being airborne
- Sleek bars and silver

***Hoot***  
**Answer Key    Final Test**

<b>Question #</b>	<b>Answer</b>
1	A
2	D
3	B
4	B
5	A
6	C
7	B
8	A
9	A
10	C
11	B
12	B
13	B
14	D
15	D
16	C
17	B
18	D
19	D
20	A
21	B
22	B
23	A
24	B
25	A
26	A
27	B
28	B
29	A
30	A
31	D
32	D
33	A
34	B

***Hoot***  
**Compare and Contrast**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The novel *Hoot* has been made into a movie. After viewing the movie, compare and contrast the book and the movie version.

The book and the movie are different in these ways:

---

---

---

---

---

The book and the movie are the same in these ways:

---

---

---

---

---

I like the \_\_\_\_\_ better because

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

# ***Hoot*** **Project**

1. Choose an endangered animal.

Use the Internet to help you. Helpful websites:

<http://www.endangeredspecies.com>

<http://eelink.net/EndSpp>

2. Prepare a written advertisement to create awareness of the endangerment of your chosen animal.

Your ad must include

- Color
- Three to five facts about the animal
- the animal's habitat
- One to three reasons it is endangered
- One picture
- At least two types of propaganda techniques to persuade others to become involved in saving the animal

3. Prepare a thirty second oral advertisement for the class.

You must

- Include two types of propaganda in your ad
- speak loud and clear to the class



## **Writing Prompts that can be assigned after reading *Hoot***

- Which character do you admire most in *Hoot*? Explain your choice.
- Roy had to decide to follow his heart to do the right thing. Write about a time when you had to “follow your heart” to do the right thing.
- Mullet Fingers survived on his own without anyone to take care of him. Write an essay describing how you would survive if you were forced to live on your own.
- Compare one of the characters in *Hoot* to another character in another book.
- Compare and contrast yourself and one of the characters in *Hoot*.
- Write a children’s book from the point of view of one of the burrowing owls. Write about the threat to your home from the bulldozers used by Mother Paula’s, and the barefooted human boy who tried to help you.

## Pre-reading Activities

### ARA (Accept Reasonable Answers)

#### Chapter 1 Conflict, Point of View, and Irony

##### Conflict

There are two plots that are emerging in this chapter. One plot involves Roy, and the other plot involves Officer David Delinko. Use the following chart to summarize the complications that arise in chapter one for each character.

Character's Name	Conflict	Type of Conflict
Roy	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Dana Matherson has made Roy the object of his violence</li><li>2. Roy has seen the "running boy" and is curious about him</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. External – character vs. character</li><li>2. Internal – character vs. his own curiosity (this mystery drives Roy-)</li></ol>
Officer Delinko	Delinko is called to investigate vandalism	External – character vs. character

##### Point of View

Though it is only the first chapter, the reader can already tell the point of view that is used in this novel. Complete the following chart on point of view.

Point of view used in this book	Evidence that proves I am right on the point of view	Advantages of this point of view
3 <sup>rd</sup> person omniscient	The point of view moves from character to character, allowing the reader to see the story from several points of view, including from the point of view of Roy, Curly, and Delinko.	From the differing point of views in this novel, the reader is allowed to see events that take place outside of the awareness of one character but where another might be aware of these events. So, the reader is able to become very familiar about many characters as the plot unfolds.

##### Irony

1. Why is Curly's name an example of verbal irony? It is ironic because he has no hair and the nickname implies he has hair – curly hair.
2. It is ironic that Garrett's mother is a guidance counselor at Trace Middle. What type of irony is this? This is situational irony. It is unexpected that a kid who stays in mischief and makes only Ds to be the son of the lady in charge of guiding students on their academics and behavior.

## Chapter 2

### Examine Word Choice

Carl Hiaasen’s word choice is nothing short of excellent in this novel. Let’s take a look at it in chapter two.

Complete the following chart by looking at each provided page and finding words, phrases, or sentences that paint a picture in your mind, linger in your memory, or that you think are just “cool ways to say something”.

**ARA – possible words, phrases, etc. are provided**

Page Number	Word, Phrase, or Sentence	Why I like it
14	<b>chortled</b>	<b>Using a term that means Dana gave a snorting laugh adds to his bully character</b>
15	<b>...weaving through yapping dogs...</b>	<b>the verbs weaving and yapping are strong and unique</b>
16	<b>...falling as soft as a drop of rain on velvet.</b>	<b>original simile that shows he made no sound as he fell</b>
17	<b>“Disney World is an armpit...</b>	<b>unique metaphor</b>

Turn to page 21. Find the fifth paragraph that begins with *He had missed his morning classes....* Finally, list the words and phrases from the paragraph that help create imagery.

**hurried through the cafeteria line...wolfed down a chili burger and a carton of**

**lukewarm milk. ...overbaked chocolate chip cookie the size of a hockey puck and just**

**about as tasty.**

Write a paragraph about another school meal using your own descriptive words, phrases, and strong verbs.

**ARA**

---

## Chapter 3 Suspense and Tone

The author of this book knows when to slow the action down to add suspense. Read the following paragraph.

*Officer Delinko asked, “Can I check out your latrines?”*

*“Sure, but there ain’t much to wreck on a port-a-potty,” Officer Delinko went in, shined his flashlight into the toilet hole and saw alligators!*

The action in this chapter is not written like the above passage, and thankfully so! If it were, it would lack suspense. Complete the following chart to figure out what the author did to create suspense.

Actions before alligators are revealed to the reader	How this adds suspense
<b>He heard a muffled noise – was it a splash?...stared uneasily at the blackness beneath the plastic seat. Ten seconds passed; then he heard it again. Definitely a splash.</b>	<b>ARA – possible responses may include... The noise and blackness make you wonder what is in the port-a-potty. The ten second pause and a second splash make you wonder more.</b>
<b>Edging forward, he aimed the light down the toilet hole.</b>	<b>ARA – possible responses may include that the use of the verb <i>edging</i> lets the reader know just exactly how frightened the officer is.</b>
<b>Curly heard a cry and watched in surprise as the policeman burst from the doorway of the latrine, leaping off the flatbed like an Olympic hurdler.</b>	<b>ARA – possible responses may include that the reaction of the officer leads the reader to conclude that the “thing” in the toilet is horrific.</b>

### Tone

Roy’s mother said that the tone of Roy’s letter was “forceful”. What other words could you say describe the tone of this letter? (**harsh, powerful, etc**) Rewrite the letter using another tone. You could use an angry tone, a sarcastic tone, an apologetic tone, or one of your choosing.

Dear Dana,

**ARA**

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 4**  
**Beatrice and her Barbecue Sandwich**  
**Voice**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Go back and read the episode when Roy confronts Beatrice in the lunchroom. Pay attention to what happens to her barbecue sandwich. Write down in order what happens to the sandwich.

1. **barbecue sauce trickled down her fingers**
2. **the sandwich dropped fat glops of barbecue sauce**
3. **soggy chunks of bun and meat were visible between her clenched fingers**
4. **she dropped the remains of the sandwich on the plate**

Who could this sandwich symbolize? How does the description of the sandwich add to the tone?

**It could symbolize her dislike of Roy. The description adds to the annoyed (antagonistic, bitter, outraged, etc) tone**

**What is Voice?**

Voice is the “energy” of a piece of writing. It is what makes a story or other piece of writing fun to read. It is what makes the reader laugh out loud, smile to him/herself, or want to cry. Voice creates a response in the reader. This novel is full of voice, and that is evident every time you laugh out loud or smile to yourself. Go back and choose your favorite parts of the book so far. Most likely, these passages contain voice.

**My favorite passages:**

Page ____
<b>ARA</b>
Page ____
<b>ARA</b>

One way to create voice in narrative writing is through characters. Carl Hiaasen brings each of his characters to life by giving them voice. Each character has his/her own distinct personality, and we are able to reveal their personalities largely because of what they say. Read the following statement made in this chapter by Dana’s mother. After reading this, what can you infer about Mrs. Matherson?

*Dana’s shoulders stiffened. His mother clucked in amusement. “You gotta be kiddin’! This little twerp is the one who messed up your face?”*

Inference about Mrs. Matherson **she is sarcastic and is not worried about her son’s hurt pride**

# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 5**

### **Vivid Descriptions / Imagery**

Write a poem about snakes taking some of the descriptive language that Hiaasen used. Here is a list of words and phrases from the passage you may want to consider using: Your poem does not need to rhyme. Your poem can be about the snakes that Roy encounters or just about snakes in general. **SAMPLE:**

**Snakes**  
**Their ominous, broad,**  
**triangular heads**  
**Slowly appeared.**  
**Dozens of quick tongues**  
**flickered about**  
**in exploration.**  
**These highly poisonous**  
**Reptiles**  
**Had no rattles to**  
**Create noise.**  
**So, they silently and sluggishly**  
**Slithered to**  
**The dark crevices**  
**Of the basement.**

Roy's encounter with these snakes causes him to have a flashback. Reread the episode when Roy has this flashback. Why does the author choose to tell us this story? What do we learn about Roy from the flashback? **The author shows that Roy knows how to handle himself in dealing with nature. We learn that Roy can be nervous on the inside yet remain calm and collected on the outside.**

Make a list of any words or phrases used in the flashback that create imagery in the passage.

***Possible responses: ...snorting, huffing, rising on their hind legs...***

***...bear squinted and growled and sniffed...made a sharp coughing noise, and her cubs obediently dashed off into the woods...***

***...barred her yellow teeth, and faked a lunge toward him.***

***...Roy was quaking with terror but on the outside he remained calm and motionless...***

***...lumbered off to collect her cubs***

***Hoot***  
**After Chapter 6**  
***Wanted Poster***

Make a “wanted” poster for the running boy. Draw a picture of the running boy in the middle. Use the descriptions in the book to help you with this. Since we do not know his name, just write “Running Boy” under the picture.

---

***Description*** *Possible descriptions may include shoeless, alias is “Mullet Fingers”, staw-blond hair, wiry frame, black-soled feet, last seen wearing grimy khaki shorts and a faded Miami Heat basketball jersey.*

***Last seen:*** *Running past a school bus then onto a golf course*

# ***Hoot***

## Test chapters 1-7

1. Why would Curly say, “What owls?” when asked about the burrowing owls?
  - a. He had no idea what Officer Delinko was talking about.
  - b. He did not know that owls were on his property.
  - c. **He knew about them, but he was not worried about what happened to the owls.**
  - d. He wanted to do everything he could to protect the owls.
  
2. What made Miss Hennepin eventually believe Roy’s story?
  - a. She talked with Roy’s parents.
  - b. She saw a note that Dana had written to harass Roy.
  - c. **She saw marks on Roy’s neck.**
  - d. She believed Roy’s explanation of the fight.
  
3. *The boy was still far ahead of him [Roy]. And Roy was gulping like a beached trout.*  
What is being compared in this simile?
  - a. Roy is being compared to a beach.
  - b. The boy ahead of Roy is being compared to a beached trout.
  - c. **The way Roy is breathing is being compared to a beached trout.**
  - d. The way Roy looks is being compared to a beached trout.
  
4. Which of the following words best describe Mullet Fingers?
  - a. lonely and sad
  - b. **brave and unconventional**
  - c. timid and reserved
  - d. arrogant and greedy
  
- It turned out that Curly’s real name was Leroy Branitt, and he was the “supervising engineer” of the construction project. He scowled when he saw the policeman write down “foreman” instead.*
5. In the above passage, *supervising engineer* is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ for *foreman*.
  - a. **euphemism**
  - b. oxymoron
  - c. metaphor
  - d. symbol
  
6. How did the running boy get the name Mullet Fingers?
  - a. His fingers (and body) smell like a mullet.
  - b. He lost a finger in a fishing accident.
  - c. He tried to feed a mullet a finger.
  - d. **He can catch a mullet with his hand.**



7. Who is Beatrice Leep's step-brother?
- a. Dana Matherson
  - b. David Delinko
  - c. Mullet Fingers**
  - d. She does not have one.
8. The main character of Hoot is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Roy**
  - b. Beatrice Leep
  - c. Dana Matherson
  - d. b and c

**Read the following passage, and then answer questions 9-10.** *The boy was straw-blond and wiry, and his skin was nut-brown from the sun. The expression on his face was intent and serious. He wore a faded Miami Heat basketball jersey and dirty khaki shorts, and here was the odd part: no shoes. The soles of his feet looked as black as barbecue coals.*

9. What literary device is employed in the passage?
- a. flashback
  - b. imagery**
  - c. hyperbole
  - d. symbolism
10. The passage appeals most strongly to \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. basketball fans
  - b. the sense of sight**
  - c. the sense of touch
  - d. students
11. Why did Officer Delinko give Roy his card?
- a. Officer Delinko wanted Roy to teach him how to ride a bike.
  - b. Officer Delinko wanted Roy to call him in case of an emergency.
  - c. Officer Delinko wanted Roy to get his mother to write a thank-you note.
  - d. Officer Delinko wanted Roy to call him if he ever heard a kid talking about the Mother Paula's Construction Site.**
12. Which of the following best describes Officer Delinko?
- a. good hearted, but a little gawky/goofy**
  - b. timid and quiet
  - c. intelligent and a perfectionist
  - d. smug and sneaky

13. Garrett thinks that Roy is going to get beaten up badly when Dana comes back. What does this show about Garrett and his support for Roy?
- a. that Garrett is a really good friend and will help Roy if he needs it
  - b. that Garrett has little faith in Roy's ability to defend himself**
  - c. that Garrett is betting against Roy in hopes of making some money
  - d. that Garrett does not like Roy at all
14. True or false? Roy decided not to write the apology letter to Dana.
- a. true
  - b. false**
15. How do Roy and his parents find out about the police cruiser windows getting painted?
- a. the newspaper**
  - b. Garrett told Roy
  - c. the Department of Justice
  - d. a middle school rumor
16. Who is "Cowgirl"?
- a. Mullet Fingers
  - b. David Delinko
  - c. Roy**
  - d. Dana
17. What can the reader infer about Mullet Fingers?
- a. He is self-reliant.
  - b. He is knowledgeable about nature.
  - c. He is fast and has quick thinking.
  - d. all of the above**
18. In the story, Beatrice bites \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. Roy's cookie in half
  - b. Roy's rear bike tire**
  - c. a barbeque sandwich
  - d. a pancake
19. Which of the following best describes Beatrice at this point in the book?
- a. kind-hearted
  - b. compassionate
  - c. witty
  - d. demanding**

20. *Traffic was steady in both directions, creeping through the standing water.* This sentence contains which of the following types of figurative language?
- a. simile
  - b. metaphor
  - c. personification**
  - d. hyperbole

*“I probably shouldn’t tell you this,” said Garrett, “but some of the kids are taking bets.”*  
*“Great. They’re betting on whether Dana’s going to beat me up?”*

21. When Roy responds, “Great”, he is using \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. verbal irony**
  - b. situational irony
  - c. dramatic irony
  - d. a metaphor
22. Roy’s conflict with Dana Matherson is \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. internal
  - b. external**

**Creating Realistic Characters through Dialogue**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

When writing a narrative, it is important that your characters seem believable and realistic. One way to do this is through dialogue. The way a character speaks should match his/her personality. Carl Hiaasen does a stupendous job making his characters realistic, especially through how they speak and what they say.

In chapter eight, we are introduced to a new character, Kalo, and what fun it is to read his dialogue. Kalo speaks with a foreign accent, and Hiaasen writes it so that the reader is able to read it just like Kalo should sound. “I lock up za fence. I come back tomorrow early, to get za dogs.” By using “za” instead of “the” the reader now has a foreign accent! It is brilliant, and it is a technique you should remember if you ever want a character that you develop to speak with a foreign accent.

In addition, our funny bones are tickled as we read Dana’s words with a lisp. “Did you jutht hit me?” The “jutht” makes our tongues pronounce the word just like Dana would with a busted lip. It is hilarious!

**Discussion:**

1. How does Kalo’s dialogue make him a realistic/believable character?

**Using “za” as an article well as placing adjectives behind nouns show that English is not his first language**

2. How does Dana’s lisp affect the tone at this point of the story?

**Makes him more humorous and a bit less “nasty”**

Write a dialogue between Dana and Kalo about a topic of your own choosing. Try to capture their voices and personalities based upon what you know of them so far. In your dialogue, continue to have Dana speak with a lisp. Use chapter eight to help you.

**ARA – A sample is provided.**

**Dana Mither, thorry about your dogth.**

**Kalo Maybe best you leave zem dogs alone. No touch za dogs.**

**Dana They won’t bite me. Mither.**

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 9**  
**Using Context Clues**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

You can really build your vocabulary by reading books like *Hoot*! Let's take a look at some words that you can learn by using context clues.

Read each of the following sentences from chapter nine. Use context clues to figure out the best meaning of the bolded words.

1. Even if Roy managed to **elude** Dana Matherson this afternoon, the drama would start all over again Monday.
  - a. see
  - b. avoid**
  - c. annoy
  - d. defeat
2. Dana and his **cronies** customarily occupied the back rows and seldom bothered the kids sitting up near the driver.
  - a. classmates
  - b. brothers
  - c. friends**
  - d. enemies
3. "Let's be crystal-clear about this, Mr. Branitt. You didn't report it to the police?"  
"No, sir," Curly said **emphatically** into the telephone.
  - a. forcefully
  - b. calmly
  - c. sorrowfully**
  - d. sarcastically
4. "So there shouldn't be any paperwork, correct? No possible way for this latest **travesty** to end up in the press?"
  - a. accomplishment
  - b. mockery**
  - c. news
  - d. sadness
5. The dog trainer then had hauled him toward the fence to point out another moccasin, then another, and still another – nine in all. Curly had been **flabbergasted**.
  - a. distracted
  - b. afraid
  - c. worried
  - d. shocked**
6. "Thanks for all your help," Curly had said **snidely**, and slammed the trailer door.
  - a. somberly
  - b. casually
  - c. insultingly**
  - d. peacefully

## 7. *Hoot*

### 8. Chapter 10 Characterization ~ Leon and Lonna

9. 1. **DIRECT CHARACTERIZATION** - The writer makes direct statements about a character's personality and tells what the character is like.  
 2. **INDIRECT CHARACTERIZATION** - The writer reveals information about a character and his personality through that character's thoughts, words, and actions, along with how other characters respond to that character, including what they think and say about him.

**Reread pages 114-116.** Complete the following charts with as many personality traits as you can about each character, and then decide if the author used direct characterization or if you concluded something about a character through indirect characterization. **ARA – Samples Provided**

<i>Leon's Traits</i>	<i>Evidence (Quote from the book)</i>	<i>Type of characterization</i>
lazy	...not much enthusiasm for steady work (pg. 114)	direct
Unmotivated	...12 years after retiring from the	indirect
Out of Shape	...gimpy knees, a beer gut, and not much enthusiasm for steady work	direct
Unstable	...turned into a lump	direct
Unobservant	...seemed not to notice	direct
Impulsive	...less than two years after Mrs. Leep left him, Leon surprised everyone by getting engaged to a woman...	Indirect
Once Athletic	...had been a high-scoring point guard for the Cleveland Cavaliers and later for the Miami Heat..	Indirect

<i>Lonna's Traits</i>	<i>Evidence (Quote from the book)</i>	<i>Type of characterization</i>
Attractive	...was one of the waitresses in bathing suits...	indirect
Nagging	...didn't get along with her son and nagged at him constantly.	direct
Controlling	Without consulting her husband, she arranged for her son to be shipped off to a military prep school...	indirect
Worrisome	...it appeared as if Lonna was afraid that the boy's quirky behavior might annoy her new husband...	indirect
Not Nurturing	...Lonna didn't know where the boy had gone and didn't intend to go looking for him.	indirect
Dishonest	...Lonna purposely didn't tell Leon	indirect

# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 11**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Discussion Questions**

1. In this chapter, Officer Delinko spots a piece of green fabric in the wire mesh over the fence at the construction site. What does this cause you to predict?

**ARA**

2. What did Curly do when he kicked open the door of the bathroom?

**He shot his gun into the toilet seat.**

3. What does Officer Delinko reveal about himself when he asks Mr. Eberhardt to write him a note for his personal file?

**That he's eager to impress his superior officers.**

4. Why does Beatrice not want to take her brother to the doctor?

**He's a runaway and he will get into trouble if he's with doctors and nurses.**

### **Cliffhanger Endings**

Carl Hiaasen seems to enjoy ending his chapters with cliffhanging endings, which leave the reader wondering what will happen next. What clues in chapter eleven might help you predict what will happen in chapter twelve?

**ARA – Possible: We know Roy is not actually hurt – that Mullet Fingers is hurt. So, when the hospital calls that Mullet Fingers has taken Roy's name to get medical help and avoid getting into trouble.**

**Chapter 12 Irony & Flashback**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Irony**

*“Sometimes he runs away from home,” Beatrice said quietly, “and he doesn’t come back for a while.”*

*It was the closest thing to a true answer that she’d given and, ironically, it was the one that made Dr. Gonzalez back off.*

**Why is this statement that Beatrice gives Dr. Gonzalez ironic?**

**Beatrice uses lies to protect her stepbrother and finally telling the truth is what gets the doctor to let up on questioning them.**

**What type of irony is used here?**

- a. situational irony**
- b. dramatic irony
- c. verbal irony
- d. all of the above

*The clerk went pale. “I’m r-r-reporting you to my s-s-su-supervisor.”*

*“**That’s a dandy idea.**” Mr. Eberhardt brushed past and started down the hall, guiding his wife by the elbow.*

**Mr. Eberhardt’s bolded response to the clerk in this passage contains which of the following types of irony?**

- a. situational irony
- b. dramatic irony
- c. verbal irony**
- d. all of the above

**Flashback**

Summarize the flashback on page 145. What do we learn about Roy from this flashback?

Summary: **Roy was sledding with his dad and saw a man run his snowmobile run full-speed into a tree. He never wanted to see anything like the accident again.**

Author’s Purpose for Including this Flashback (What we learned about Roy):

**Roy does not like gory scenes.**



# ***Hoot***

## **Test Chapters 8-12**

1. **How did Mullet Fingers get hurt?**
  - a. He was run over by the bull dozer.
  - b. He was bit by a dog.**
  - c. He was sick from eating raw hamburger meat.
  - d. He was bitten by a snake.
2. **Why did Curly shoot his gun inside the trailer?**
  - a. He thought he saw a mouse.
  - b. He was angry because the toilet wasn't working.
  - c. He was shooting to scare Mullet Fingers away.
  - d. He heard something in the bathroom and shot before thinking.**
3. **Why did Roy's parents think their son was hurt?**
  - a. They received a phone call saying he was in the hospital.**
  - b. They saw that his sweatshirt had been torn.
  - c. Officer Delinko told them that their son had been hurt.
  - d. They saw dogs attack him.
4. **Why did Kalo remove his dogs from the construction site?**
  - a. They were harmful to the owls.
  - b. Curley had fed them raw hamburger meat.
  - c. They were mistreated by the vandals.
  - d. Snakes were on the property.**
5. **Who saved Roy from Dana's assault in the janitor's closet?**
  - a. Beatrice
  - b. Mullet Fingers**
  - c. Mr. Ryan
  - d. Garrett
6. **Dramatic irony is more commonly used in plays and movies than in novels. It refers to a situation in which one character is unaware of something that the other characters or the reader know. What is ironic about Mrs. Eberhardt's conversation with Officer Delinko when he brings Roy home from being stranded with a flat tire in the rain?**
  - a. Officer Delinko knows that she is referring to him when she asks about the police car getting spray painted, but Mrs. Eberhardt has no idea it is him.**
  - b. Officer Delinko knows about the car being spray painted, but Mrs. Eberhardt has not heard about the incident at all.
  - c. The reader knows that it was Officer Delinko's car that got spray painted, but the officer nor Mrs. Eberhardt know it.
  - d. Officer Delinko and Mrs. Eberhardt both know it is him who got his car painted.
7. **Read the following passage: *It was obvious to Roy that Beatrice was experienced at fibbing to grownups. Mrs. Eberhardt fell for the whole yarn.* What is the meaning of *yarn* as it is used in this sentence?**
  - a. a textile fiber for use in weaving
  - b. a strand of material
  - c. an interesting or exciting (often made-up) story**
  - d. none of the above

8. **Read the following passage:** *When Curly told his wife of his overnight guard duties, she received the news with no trace of annoyance or concern. Her mother was in town visiting, and the two of them had planned numerous shopping excursions for Saturday and Sunday. **Curly's charming presence would not be missed.*** What type of irony is used in the bolded part of this passage?
- situational
  - verbal**
  - dramatic
  - none of these
9. **When Curly packed for his night in the construction site trailer, he packed a jumbo bottle of aspirin. What can you infer from this?**
- Curly always thinks something is wrong with him.
  - Curly anticipates trouble at the site.**
  - Curly has high blood pressure.
  - Snakes always give Curly headaches.
10. **After seeing Roy waving to him in the middle of the street and then run into the woods, David Delinko goes \_\_\_\_\_.**
- back to work
  - to the construction site
  - to the school
  - to the Eberhardt's**
11. **Read the following passage:** *Other kids could be really curious about that gory stuff, but not Roy. Once, when he was seven years old and his family lived near Milwaukee, a drunken hunter drove a snowmobile full-speed into an old birch tree. The accident happened only a hundred yards from a slope where Roy and his father were sledding.* What literary device is used in this passage?
- foreshadowing
  - flashback**
  - symbolism
  - irony
12. *The dead man was soaked with blood and twisted at odd angles, like a broken G.I. Joe doll.* What literary devices are used in this passage?
- simile and imagery**
  - metaphor and imagery
  - personification and imagery
  - simile and hyperbole
13. **When Officer Delinko rode by the construction site to try and look at the dogs, he found \_\_\_\_\_ hanging on the fence.**
- flowery material
  - green fabric**
  - snake skin
  - owl feathers
14. **The object on the fence came from \_\_\_\_\_.**
- the cottonmouth
  - burrowing owls
  - Mother Paula's apron
  - Mullet Finger's shirt**
15. **Which word best describes Chuck Muckle's feelings toward Curly?**
- proud
  - unsatisfied**
  - sympathetic
  - humored

16. **Who is the spokesperson for the Mother Paula Pancake house?**  
a. Beatrice Leep  
**b. Kimberly Lou Dixon**  
c. Chuck Muckle  
d. Leroy Branitt
17. **What name did Mullet Fingers use to get admitted to the hospital?**  
a. Garrett  
b. Dana  
**c. Roy**  
d. None of the above
18. **“He’s a tough little cockroach.” What type of figurative language is used in this sentence?**  
a. hyperbole  
b. idiom  
**c. metaphor**  
d. simile
19. **How did the Eberhardts get to the ER to check on Roy?**  
a. by ambulance  
b. by taxi  
**c. by a police car**  
d. by truck
20. **What is Mullet Finger’s motive for vandalizing the Mother Paula’s property?**  
a. He wants to get revenge on Curly.  
b. He likes playing pranks on people.  
**c. He wants to save the owls.**  
d. He enjoys scaring people with reptiles.
21. **According the book’s description, which of the following best describes Beatrice’s father?**  
a. highly motivated  
b. self disciplined  
**c. lazy**  
d. mean
22. **Which of the following best describes Mullet Finger’s mother?**  
a. compassionate  
**b. selfish**  
c. motherly  
d. conceited
23. **Who was the Rottweiler’s trainer?**  
a. Roy’s dad  
b. Curly  
**c. Kalo**  
d. Chuck

# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 13**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Discussion:**

*It was a calm cloudless night, and a pale sliver of moon peeked over the rooftops. Insects as thick as confetti swirled around the cowls of the streetlights. Toward the end of the block, two cats could be heard yowling at each other.*

**1. This passage is full of imagery, and it includes both figurative language and a sound device. Identify each of the following from this passage by writing each one on the line provided.**

Simile **Insects as thick as confetti swirled...**

Personification **...a pale sliver of moon peeked over the rooftops.**

Onomatopoeia **yowling**

**Imagery** is present when a writer uses his/her words to appeal to our five senses. The *pale sliver of moon* and *insects as thick as confetti* paint a picture in our minds. The *yowling cats* allow us to hear what Roy and his father hear. Let's see if you can write a passage that uses both figurative language and imagery as this passage does. On the following lines, describe the night as if it were cold and snowy when Roy and his father took the walk.

**ARA – responses should include things such as descriptions of snowflakes, the cold, frosty air, icy snow crunching under their feet, etc**

**2. Go back and read the top of page 159. Roy is reading a book titled *A Land Remembered*. How is this book relevant to the conflict of *Hoot*?**

***A Land Remembered* is relevant because in the 1850s, Mullet Fingers would not have had to worry about protecting the owls from the construction site since Florida was still largely uninhibited.**

*"Honey, sometimes you're going to be faced with situations where the line isn't clear between what's right and what's wrong. Your heart will tell you to do one thing, and your brain will tell you to do something different. In the end, all that's left is to look at both sides and go with your best judgment."*

**3. This statement could be one of the themes from this novel. How is this statement linked with the main conflict in this novel?**

**Roy must decide to help Mullet Fingers in protecting the owls at the expense of being unethical.**

# ***Hoot***

## Chapter 16

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Inside/Out Profile

Let's take a closer look at Beatrice after this chapter. On the following chart, make a list of adjectives that describe how Beatrice seems to others. Next to each adjective, write a word that suggests her inner emotions, thoughts, and values. This way we can examine her from the inside out and really get to know her.

Beatrice's Outside (adjectives)	Beatrice on the inside (her inner emotions, thoughts, and/or values) Support with text.
<b>curly blond hair</b>	<b>Resourceful – entered Roy's house through an unlocked door</b>
<b>tall</b>	<b>Patient – waited all day at Roy's house for his family to get home</b>
<b>strong</b>	<b>Protective- she tells Roy "maybe" when he asked if she'd seen Mullet Fingers that day</b>
<b>wears red glasses</b>	<b>Sensible- She leaves home because her dad and stepmom fought</b>

### Discussion

1. How is Roy's opinion of Florida changing? Support your answer with evidence from the text.

Roy's opinion is changing because he has seen firsthand that Florida is more than a "tourist trap". This is demonstrated in the line *once you got away from all the jillions of people, Florida was just as wild as Montana.*

2. After Roy's airboat trip through the Everglades, Roy felt a stronger connection to Mullet Fingers and a "*better understanding of the boy's private crusade against the pancake house.*"(page 205) What made Roy have this stronger connection?

Roy saw all the birds and animals "in person" that were in danger of being "wiped out" by construction of things such as Mother Paula's Pancake House.

# ***Hoot***

## Chapter 17

### Writing Opportunity

**Use provided rubric to score student articles.**

# ***Hoot***

## **Test Chapters 13-17**

*Roy nudged the conversation back toward the delicate subject of Mullet Fingers. He needed to know where his father stood.*

1. Which of the following definitions of *stood* is used in the above sentence?
  - a. to rise to an upright position
  - b. to remain stationary or inactive
  - c. a position or opinion one is prepared to uphold**
  - d. to keep or maintain

*Roy's father stood up slowly as if the weight of a hundred bricks were on his shoulders.*

2. What type of figurative language is used in this passage?
  - a. idiom
  - b. metaphor
  - c. personification
  - d. simile**

*An hour later, he was half dozing when he heard a tap-tap on the bedroom door.*

3. What sound device is employed in the above passage?
  - a. alliteration
  - b. onomatopoeia**
  - c. rhyme
  - d. none of these
4. What did Mullet Fingers do with his shirt when he left the hospital?
  - a. He left it in the X-ray department.
  - b. He left it on Officer Delinko's patrol car.**
  - c. He left it with Roy.
  - d. He left it on his hospital bed.

*Roy still hadn't settled the argument between his brain and his heart. Surely there had to be a way for him to help the birds – and Beatrice's stepbrother – without breaking the law.*

5. What type of conflict is Roy struggling with in this passage?
  - a. internal**
  - b. external
  - c. both
  - d. natural
6. Which of the following words best describe Leon Leep?
  - a. dedicated, self-motivated
  - b. diligent, bossy
  - c. impassive, lazy**
  - d. intelligent, hateful

*Roy believed Lonna was skating on thin ice.*

7. Which of the following types of figurative language is used in this sentence?
  - a. hyperbole
  - b. idiom**
  - c. metaphor
  - d. personification

*Mom made me promise not to tell. It's supposed to be a secret, since Dana's still a minor."*

*"Right," said Roy. "You wouldn't want to ruin his fine reputation."*

8. Which type of irony is used in this sentence?  
a. **verbal**                      b. dramatic                      c. situational                      d. all of the above
9. What does Roy find out that the burrowing owls eat?  
a. hamburger meat  
**b. insects**  
c. leaves  
d. soil
10. When Roy shows up at Dana Matherson's house, what does Dana's father assume?  
a. Roy is coming to listen to music with Dana.  
b. Roy is coming to work on a science project with Dana.  
**c. Roy is coming to collect money for doing Dana's homework.**  
d. Roy is coming to give another apology letter to Dana.
11. What do Dana Matherson and Mullet Fingers have in common?  
a. a dislike of shoes  
b. a concern for the environment  
c. speed  
**d. unfit mothers**

*Although the airboat was very fast, the ride across the shallows was like gliding on silk.*

*Again Roy was astounded by the immense flatness of the terrain, the lush horizons, and the exotic abundance of life.*

12. Which of the following is used in this passage?  
a. imagery and a metaphor  
**b. imagery and a simile**  
c. imagery and alliteration  
d. personification and symbolism
13. Who is Molly Bell?  
a. Roy's grandmother  
b. Dana Matherson's mother  
c. the name of the place where Mullet Fingers hides  
**d. the name of a crab boat**
14. What does Roy do that infuriates Dana?  
a. He steals his cigarettes.  
b. He chases him.  
c. He calls him a name.  
**d. He moons him.**

*"Looks more like a lump of mud to me," Chuck Muckle said. "Boy's got quite an imagination doesn't he?" he added snidely.*

15. We can conclude that Chuck is rude and sarcastic from this comment. What type of characterization is used in this passage?  
a. direct                      **b. indirect**                      c. first person                      d. none of these

## ***Hoot***

### **Chapter 18**

#### **Create an Advertisement**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Look back at the advertisement for Mother Paula's on pages 234-235. What types of propaganda are used in this advertisement?

**Plain folks (All-American, Your New Neighbor)**

**Glittering Generalities (World-Famous, Mouthwatering...)**

**Testimonial (Mother Paula)**

Create your own advertisement persuading people to "Save the owls" from Mother Paula's. Use at least two propaganda techniques in your ad.

**Use the provided rubric to score the advertisements.**

## ***Hoot***

### **Chapter 20**

#### ***Writing Opportunity***

Create a comic strip for this chapter. Use this sheet to help you plan it. Draw pictures of the main events in this chapter, and use captions to help describe the action. Think of scenes and actions that occur, the characters that are present, the landscape and props, and make sure you pay attention to Hiaasen's imagery as you draw each scene. You may not need all of the boxes on this page.

**Use the provided rubric to score the comic strips.**



***Hoot***  
***After the Epilogue***  
***Symbolism***

A symbol is something that stands for something else, like our flag stands for our country. It is any object, person, place, or experience that means more than what it is.

A literary symbol has literal meaning in a story but stands for something else.

**Discussion**

1. What does the owl symbolize in general? When you think of an owl, what comes to mind symbolically?

**ARA – possible - wisdom**

2. What might the owls in this novel symbolize? Explain.

**ARA – possible – hope, freedom, right vs. wrong**

3. It is evident in the epilogue that the mullet symbolize Mullet Fingers. Go back and reread the bottom of page 290 through the bottom of page 291. How do the mullet symbolize or represent Mullet Fingers?

**ARA – possible – They are quick and resourceful at getting away and escaping capture.**

4. Can you think of anything else in this book that may be symbolic? Remember, if something is symbolic, it will most likely

- *be repeated in the book*
- *be written in a memorable or vivid way*
- *be emphasized with imagery*
- *mean something else than what it is*

**ARA – possible – pancake house = progress, expansion or destruction**

## ***Hoot***

### **Who's Who When it comes to Characters**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Four common types of characters in a work of fiction are as follows:

- **The protagonist** – This person is the principal driver of the effort to achieve the story's goal.
- **The antagonist** – Usually, this is the “bad guy” or the villain who is opposed to the Protagonist's end goal. This person represents the drive to undermine success.
- **The Hero** – This is who the reader cheers for to see if they will win in the end. Sometimes, the hero and the protagonist is the same person, but sometimes they are two different people.
- **The Obstacle Character** – This character blocks or stands in the way of the protagonist, but is not necessarily the antagonist.

After reading about the different kinds of characters, think about the characters in *Hoot*. Can you match one of the characters from the novel with each of the types listed above? Explain your answers.

Who is the protagonist? **Roy** Why? **ARA**

Who is the antagonist? **Mother Paula's Pancake House** Why? **ARA**

Who is the hero? **Mullet Fingers** Why? **ARA**

Who is the obstacle character? **Dana** Why? **ARA**

### **Static or Dynamic? Round or Flat?**

Which characters are dynamic in this novel?

**Possible – Roy, Beatrice**

Which characters are static? **Possible - Dana, David Delinko**

List three round characters. **Possible – Beatrice, Roy, Mullet Fingers**

List three flat characters. **Possible – Dana, Curly, Delinko**

## ***Hoot***

# Theme

## Developing Mottos

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_

A motto is a word or phrase that describes a principle that someone lives by. By thinking of mottos of different characters, you can reveal some of the themes from this novel. Here are some examples of mottos:

- Do not judge a person until you have walked a mile in his shoes.
- Don't put off until tomorrow what can be done today.
- Haste makes waste.

Think of two characters from the novel, and create mottos for those characters. Think about the character's personality, ambition, and goals, and make sure the motto is something that the character would want to live by. Your final mottos should be themes from the novel.

Complete the following banners with a character's name and motto. **ARA**

Character:	
Motto:	
Character:	
Motto:	

# Hoot

## Final Test

*In the Leep driveway sat a dented old Suburban and a shiny new Camaro convertible.*

1. The cars in this passage are symbolic of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. **Leon and Lonna Leep**
  - b. Mr. and Mrs. Matherson
  - c. Rich people and poor people
  - d. Beatrice and Roy
2. What was Mullet Fingers' real name?
  - a. Brian Leep
  - b. Andrew M. Paul
  - c. Eugene Morrow
  - d. **Napoleon Bridger**
3. What was Mullet Fingers' last act of vandalism at the construction site?
  - a. covering all of the owl burrows
  - b. **removing the driver's seats of the earthmoving equipment**
  - c. destroying the chain link fence
  - d. emptying crickets onto the site
4. What did Officer Delinko use to trick Dana and convince himself that Dana was not the Mother Paula's vandal?
  - a. cigarettes
  - b. **toy alligator**
  - c. port-a-potty
  - d. crayons
5. Who is Miss Hennipen?
  - a. **the vice principal at Trace Middle School**
  - b. the guidance counselor at Trace Middle School
  - c. Chuck Muckle's secretary
  - d. Roy's history teacher
6. It is ironic that Kimberly Lou Dixon is in the Audubon Society. What type of irony is this?
  - a. Verbal irony
  - b. Dramatic irony
  - c. **Situational irony**
  - d. All of the above

Roy had put the book on his Christmas list after it had settled a friendly wager between him and his father. One afternoon they had seen a large reddish brown raptor swoop down and catch a ground squirrel off a cattle range in the Gallatin River valley. Roy's father had bet him a milkshake that the bird was a young bald eagle whose crown feathers had not yet turned white, but Roy had said it was a fully grown golden eagle, more common on the dry prairies. Later, after visiting the Boezman Library and consulting Sibley, Roy's father conceded that Roy had been right.

7. What or who does the Raptor symbolize in this passage?
  - a. the owls
  - b. **Mother Paula's Company**
  - c. Mullet Fingers
  - d. a foot race
8. What type of literary device is used in this passage?
  - a. **flashback and foreshadowing**
  - b. imagery and foreshadowing
  - c. allusion and characterization
  - d. none of the above
9. *The perfect decoy – that was Dana.* What makes this statement about Dana true?
  - a. **He is predictable, slow, and gullible.**
  - b. He is mean and selfish.
  - c. He is always looking for trouble.
  - d. He is calm, cool, and collected.

*Although the airboat was very fast, the ride across the shallows was like gliding on silk. Again, Roy was astounded by the immense flatness of the terrain, the lush horizons, and the exotic abundance of life. Once you got away from all the jillions of people, Florida was just as wild as Montana.*

10. Which of the following types of figurative language are used in the above passage?
  - a. simile and metaphor
  - b. simile and idiom
  - c. **simile and hyperbole**
  - d. simile and personification
11. Which of the following is a theme of Hoot?
  - a. Police officers help our society.
  - b. **Sometimes you must do unconventional things to accomplish a goal.**
  - c. Bullies must be stopped.
  - d. Mullet Fingers is a hero because of this work to save the owls.
12. Which of these is the part of the exposition of the novel?
  - a. Mullet Fingers buries himself in an owl burrow.
  - b. **Roy is bullied by Dana and sees "the running boy".**
  - c. Roy confronts Beatrice at lunch.
  - d. Roy gets hit in the head with a golf ball.

13. Why did Roy want to borrow his mom's digital camera?
- to take a picture of Mullet Fingers for his dad
  - to take a picture of the owls**
  - to take a picture of Beatrice's soccer team
  - to take a picture of the protest
14. What did Mullet Fingers have inside the bucket at the protest?
- owl pellets
  - crickets
  - phony alligators
  - phony snakes**
15. Which of the following best describes Roy?
- brave and determined
  - helpful and levelheaded
  - compassionate and caring
  - all of the above**
16. Kimberly Lou Dixon is a movie star. By using her as Mother Paula in advertisements, which of the following propaganda techniques is being used?
- bandwagon
  - card stacking
  - testimonial**
  - plain folks
17. Which of the following characters is the protagonist in this book?
- Officer Delinko
  - Roy**
  - Curly
  - Beatrice
18. Where did Curly find his gun the day after he caught Dana on his property?
- in an owl burrow
  - in his trailer
  - in some bushes
  - in the portable toilet**
19. Which of the following would not be a theme of this novel?
- Sometimes you have to follow your heart.
  - You must fight for what you believe is right.
  - If at first you don't succeed, try again.
  - Beauty is only skin deep.**
20. Carl Hiaasen uses the third person omniscient point of view. Which of the following is an advantage of this point of view?
- The reader is able to know the thoughts and feelings of more than one character.**
  - The reader is able to follow the main character more closely than others.
  - The conflict is more easily revealed.
  - The theme is more easily revealed.

21. According to the epilogue, how did Mullet Fingers escape from the juvenile detention center the last time?
- He jumped out of a bathroom window.
  - He hid in a laundry basket.**
  - Roy helped him escape.
  - He dressed as a janitor.
22. How did Beatrice break her tooth?
- She bit a piece of metal.
  - She bit a ring.**
  - She bit a rock.
  - She hit it on her bed post.

For numbers 23-27, decide whether each character is a round character or a flat character.

23. Mullet Fingers
- Round**
  - Flat
24. Leon Leep
- Round
  - Flat**
25. Beatrice Leep
- Round**
  - Flat
26. Roy Eberhardt
- Round**
  - Flat
27. Miss Hennepin
- Round
  - Flat**

For numbers 28-33, tell which type of figurative language is used in each sentence.

28. *Beatrice's step-brother was a distant blur, a bronze-colored wisp vanishing into a snarled tree line.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor**
  - Personification
  - Idiom
29. *They were followed by a wobbly-legged youngster that looked as fragile as a Christmas ornament.*
- Simile**
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom
30. *Today the sun lit up the green soccer field like a neon carpet, and Roy was happy to peel off his T-shirt and bake.*
- Simile**
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom
31. *The quiet wrapped around him like a soft blanket.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Both a and c**
32. *I'm going out on a limb here so you know what that means," the captain said.*
- Simile
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom**
33. *Roy's mouth was as dry as chalk.*
- Simile**
  - Metaphor
  - Personification
  - Idiom
34. *Within moments, a school of mullet erupted, sleek bars of silver shooting airborne again and again.*

What two things are being compared in this sentence?

- Moments and a school of mullet
- Mullet and sleek bars of silver**
- Sleek bars of silver and being airborne
- Sleek bars and silver

**If you enjoyed this teaching unit, visit our website:**

**[www.elacoreplans.com](http://www.elacoreplans.com)**

We have tons of resources for ELA teachers including [novel units](#), [short story lessons](#), [writing activities](#), and [Common-Core bell ringer activities](#). You can print free samples from all of these online teaching materials!

Happy Teaching! ☺

ELA Core Plans

S&T Publications, LLC