

A Teaching Unit For Hatchet

By Gary Paulsen



ELA Core Plans

Teacher-Written Standards-Based Lesson Plans

Teaching Unit

Hatchet

Gary Paulsen

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Note: This teaching unit was produced to accompany the wonderful novel *Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen. The author nor publisher of *Hatchet* was involved in the production of these lessons, and neither endorse this teaching unit.

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Hatchet Novel Unit
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Chapter 1

Point of View

Point of view is the relationship of the narrator or storyteller to the story.

- In a story with first person point of view, the story is told by one of the characters, referred to as "I".
- In a story with a limited third-person point of view, an unseen narrator is telling the story, and this narrator reveals the thoughts of only one character and refers to that character as "he" or "she".
- In a story with an omniscient point of view, an unseen narrator is telling the story, and the narrator reveals the thoughts of several characters.

Let's examine the point of view in this novel. Complete the following questions.

Who is telling the story?

Is the point of view

- First person (A character is telling the story.)
- Third-person limited (An unseen narrator, not a character, is telling the story and this narrator reveals the thoughts and feelings of only one character.)
- Third person omniscient (An unseen narrator- not a character- is telling the story and this narrator reveals the thoughts and feelings of several characters.)

Choose and write some words and phrases that helped you to figure out the point of view of this novel.

Choose a passage from chapter one that allows us to follow Brian's thought processes. Copy this passage below.

If this story were told from the third person omniscient point of view, what would we as the readers know more of?

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Chapter 2

Tone

Tone: the attitude that a writer takes toward the audience, a subject, or a character

So far, the overall tone of this novel is suspenseful.

Gary Paulsen achieves much of this suspenseful tone through using the limited point of view and revealing the thoughts of Brian. Paulsen writes like Brian is thinking. Just look again at the following passage from page fifteen.

He had to fly it somehow. Had to fly the plane. He had to help himself. The pilot was gone, beyond anything he could do. He had to try and fly the plane.

How many times is "had to fly" repeated in this passage? _____

What kind of tone does this repetition create? (Use another word besides suspenseful to describe the tone.) _____

Go to page seventeen. Find and copy a passage from this page that uses repetition.

On page 18, the tone heightens. Read the following passage from that page.

"Help! Somebody help me! I'm in this plane and don't know... don't know... don't know."

And he started crying with the screams, crying and slamming his hands against the wheel of the plane, causing it to jerk down, then back up. But again, he heard nothing but the sound of his own sobs in the microphone, his own screams mocking him, coming back into his ears.

Which of the following best describes the tone in this passage?

- a. anxious
- b. upsetting
- c. panic
- d. unsettling

On page 21, the tone seems to shift again. Read the following passage from that page.

... Nothing could help him now... He felt like a prisoner, kept in a small cell that was hurling through the sky at what he thought to be 160 miles an hour, headed – he didn't know where – just headed somewhere until...

Which of the following best describes the tone in this passage?

- a. sad
- b. hopeless
- c. serious
- d. reflective

Discussion: What would you do if you were Brian?

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Chapter 3

Using Imagery and Strong Verbs to Create Suspense

Imagery consists of words and phrases that appeal to readers' senses. Writers use sensory details to help readers imagine how things look, feel, smell, sound, and taste. In this chapter, Paulsen uses imagery to help him create suspense. Read pages 28-29, starting at ...*Then everything happened at once*. Stop on page 29 at *Ripping free*. Use these two pages to complete the following chart. One example has been provided for you.

Words that create imagery	The sense or senses that the imagery appeals to	Verbs used to create imagery
The plane... fell into the wide place like a stone and Brian eased back on the wheel and braced himself for the crash.	sight, feel	fell, eased

The imagery in this chapter provides the reader with a glimpse of death. We are able to feel and sense what Brian feels and senses. In this chapter, we receive a taste of what it takes to fight and to survive.

Discussion:

How do the strong verbs and the imagery that Paulsen used help create suspense?

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Chapter 4

Setting

Study the following chart to understand what setting might include.

Place	Time	Environment
The physical location The country, state, or city Mountains? Lake? Forest? Beach? Under a bridge?	Calendar and clock times Day, month, year Season Future Past Present	Details in the surroundings What else is going on around the characters? Is it crowded? Isolated? What is the weather like?

Describe the setting in which Brian finds himself in chapter four. Look back at the chapter and complete the following chart by describing the place, the time, and the environment of this new place that he has “crashed” into.

Place	Time	Environment

Read the following passage again from page 36.

...With it came some warmth, small bits of it at first, and with the heat came clouds of insects – thick, swarming hordes of mosquitoes that flocked to his body, made a living coat on his exposed skin, clogged his nostrils when he inhaled, poured into his mouth when he opened it to take a breath.

Imagery is employed in this passage to help the readers “see” and “feel” the setting. Make a list of the words in this passage that create such a strong sense of imagery. Look for strong verbs, similes, or any other word or phrase that makes the setting “come to life”.

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Chapter 5

Motivation

...Perpich would tell him to quit messing around. Get motivated. Look at all of it, Robeson...

Who is Perpich? _____

Look back at page 50. List the things that Brian has with him, and try to come up with a way that each thing might be helpful to Brian on the island.

Items that Brian has with him in his pocket	How these items could be used

... Those were all the things he had, but he also had himself. Perpich used to drum that into them – “You are your most valuable asset. Don’t forget that. You are the best thing you have.”

Explain Perpich’s quote. Do you think this is a true statement? Why or why not?

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Test on Chapters 1- 5

Name _____

Date _____

1. What point of view is used in this novel?
 - a. First person – Brian’s point of view
 - b. First person – the pilot’s point of view
 - c. Third person limited to Brian
 - d. Third person omniscient
2. Which of the following sentences from the story is **not** related to the setting in this story?
 - a. The lake was blue, and wet-looking, and his mouth and throat raged with the thirst and he did not know where there might be another form of water he could drink.
 - b. When he opened them again it was evening and some of the sharp pain had abated...
 - c. His legs were on fire, and his forehead felt as if somebody had been pounding on it with a hammer, but he could move.
 - d. "Must be morning now..." He mumbled it, almost in a hoarse whisper.
3. How old is Brian Robeson?
 - a. ten
 - b. twelve
 - c. thirteen
 - d. sixteen
4. What happened to the pilot of the plane?
 - a. He fell asleep while piloting the plane.
 - b. He had a heart attack and died while flying the plane.
 - c. He went blind while flying the plane.
 - d. He got lost while flying the plane.
5. Where does the plane land?
 - a. near mountains
 - b. in a jungle
 - c. on an island Near a lake
 - d. in a lake
6. Which of the following best describes Brian’s feelings toward his mom and the “secret” that he knows?
 - a. uncaring
 - b. suspicion and eagerness
 - c. anger and embarrassment
 - d. resentment and pride
7. Which of the following items does Brian have with him once he is on the island?
 - a. a stopwatch
 - b. a pair of flip flops
 - c. a woven bracelet
 - d. a thin leather belt

But when he brought a cupped hand to his mouth and felt the cold lake water trickle past his cracked lips and over his tongue he could not stop...He stooped and put his mouth to the lake and drank and drank...He drank until his stomach was swollen...then he rose and stagger-tripped his way back to the bank.

8. This passage contains _____.
 - a. imagery
 - b. strong, vivid verbs
 - c. figurative language
 - d. both a and b
9. Which of the following is **not** true about the author's style of this novel?
 - a. Gary Paulsen uses a suspenseful tone and lots of strong, vivid verbs.
 - b. Gary Paulsen writes in a way that the reader is able to know what Brian is thinking.
 - c. Gary Paulsen uses foreshadowing on every page, providing lots of suspense.
 - d. Gary Paulsen uses imagery to describe the setting.
10. So far, Brian has faced or worried about all of the following except _____.
 - a. swarming mosquitoes
 - b. search planes coming to find him
 - c. large animals
 - d. a bad storm coming
11. Perpich is Brian's _____.
 - a. former English teacher
 - b. pilot
 - c. father
 - d. baseball coach
12. At this point in the novel, which of the following best describes Brian?
 - a. timid and hopeful
 - b. aggressive and lonely
 - c. trustworthy and daring
 - d. motivated and self-driven

I have to get motivated, he thought, remembering Perpich. Right now I'm all I've got. I have to do something.

13. What is the tone of this passage?
 - a. sarcastic
 - b. critical
 - c. suspenseful
 - d. hopeful

The memory was like a knife cutting into him. Slicing deep into him with hate.

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

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Test Chapters 1-5
Answer key

Number	Answer
1	c
2	c
3	c
4	b
5	d
6	c
7	d
8	d
9	c
10	d
11	a
12	d
13	d
14	d

Hatchet Chapters 6 & 7 Flashbacks

A flashback is a literary device in which an earlier episode, conversation, or event is inserted into the chronological sequence of a narrative. It is a technique that bridges time, place, and action to reveal information about the character. Flashbacks are also used to fill in information about the background of a conflict or to advance the story.

Purposes of flashbacks	Some cues that begin a flashback for a character	Some words that signal a flashback
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To fill in information about the background of a conflict To fill in information about the background of a character 	Sound Odor Taste Related setting Daydreams, thinking, dreams	Once Long ago Yesterday A while back

Reread the following passage from page 56.

Two years before he and Terry had been fooling around down near the park, where the city seemed to end for a time and the trees grew thick and came down to the small river that went through the park. It was thick there and seemed kind of wild, and they had been joking and making things up and they pretended that they were lost in the woods and talked in the afternoon about what they would do. Of course they figured they'd have all sorts of goodies like a gun and a knife and fishing gear and matches so they could hunt and fish and have a fire. ...I wish you were here, Terry, he thought. With a gun and a knife and some matches...

Using the chart above for help, which cues began this flashback for Brian?

- a sound
- an odor
- a related setting
- a taste

What is the purpose of this flashback?

- to give us more information about a conflict
- to give us more information about a character

What are the words that Gary Paulsen uses to signal this flashback? _____

Find the following flashbacks in chapters six and seven, and complete the chart.

Flashback	Cues that began the flashback	Purpose of the flashback	Words that the author used to begin the flashback
pages 59-60			
page 68			

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Chapter 8

Suspense

The author of this book knows when to slow the action down to add suspense. What if the action in this chapter were written like the following?

At first he thought it was a growl. In the still darkness of the shelter in the middle of the night his eyes came open and he was awake and he thought there was a growl.. But there wasn't. It was just a porcupine.

Now, if this part of the book were written like the sentences above, it would be lacking suspense – that element that creates a drive and a hunger for the reader to keep reading to see what will happen. In order to create suspense, the action has to be put in slow motion.

Complete the following chart to figure out what Gary Paulsen did to create suspense. The first one has been done for you.

Actions before Brian realizes it is a porcupine	How this adds suspense
<i>He thinks he hears a growl.</i>	The reader starts to wonder what it is and begins to make predictions. Is it a bear?

Discussion:

On page 82, Brian realizes that the most important rule of survival is that “feeling sorry for yourself doesn’t work.”

Do you agree that this is the most important rule of survival? Why or why not?

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Chapter 9

Figurative Language

Writers use figurative language to make their writing more interesting and effective. By using a simile, metaphor, personification, or hyperbole, the writer is able to paint a picture in the mind of the reader.

Simile – a comparison of two things using the words *like* or *as*

- *The moon is like a big flashlight in the sky.*

Metaphor – calls one thing another

- *Her hair is silk.*

Personification – gives a nonhuman object human traits

- *The lightning scribbled in the sky.*

Hyperbole – an extreme exaggeration

- *I ate a mile high ice cream cone.*

Idiom – a commonly used expression that means something totally different than what it says

- *The teacher knew about the surprise because Jayne let the cat out of the bag.*

Complete the blanks in the following chart to examine the figurative language that Gary Paulsen uses in this chapter.

Page #	Passage	Type of figurative language
88	<i>They were a beautiful white with bark like clean, slightly speckled paper.</i>	Simile
89		Personification
89	<i>At last he had a ball of fluff as big as a grapefruit.</i>	
90		Simile
91	<i>I would kill, he thought suddenly, for a book of matches.</i>	
92	<i>...moved the sparks themselves into the bark, moved and grew and became worms, glowing red worms that crawled up the bark hairs...</i>	

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Chapter 10

Personification

Write the definition for the word *personification*. _____

What word do you notice inside the word personification? _____

How does the word "person" give you a clue as to the meaning of personification?

Why do you think a writer would want to use personification?

Find examples of personification in chapter ten by completing the following chart.

Page #	What is being personified	Sentence (Write the sentence that contains the personification.)
94	the fire	
96	the fire	
99	his hunger	
101	his stomach, and his hunger	

Discussion

What kind of words does Gary Paulsen use to set the mood at the beginning of the chapter when Brian is tending to the fire? How does the personification help set this mood?

Words used to set the mood...	How personification helps set this mood...
-------------------------------	--

How does Gary Paulsen intensify the severity of his hunger by using personification?

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Test on Chapters 6- 10

1. Brian feels _____ toward his mother.
- sorrow
 - anger
 - support
 - hurt

There were tall pines, the kind with no limbs until very close to the top, with a gentle breeze sighing in them, but not too much low brush.

2. Which word in this passage creates personification?
- tall
 - limbs
 - gentle
 - sighing

Simple. Keep it simple. I am Brian Robeson. I have been in a plane crash. I am going to find some food. I am going to find berries.

3. This passage shows Brian's _____.
- main conflict
 - hopes
 - thoughts
 - personality

It was the last Thanksgiving, last year, the last Thanksgiving they had as a family before his mother demanded the divorce and his father moved out in the following January. (Page 59)

4. This passage contains _____.
- suspense
 - a flashback
 - personification
 - a metaphor

The slender branches went up about twenty feet and were heavy, drooping with clusters of bright red berries. They were half as big as grapes but hung in bunches much like grapes and when Brian saw them, glistening red in the sunlight, he almost yelled.

5. This passage contains _____.
- a flashback
 - imagery
 - a metaphor
 - personification

6. Why did Brian get sick after eating the berries?
- He was allergic to them.
 - They were poisonous.
 - He drank lake water with them.
 - He ate too many of them.

...then crawled still farther and was sick again, vomiting and with terrible diarrhea for over an hour, **for over a year** he thought, until he **was at last empty** and drained of all strength.

7. What type of figurative language is used in the bolded parts of this passage?
- hyperbole
 - personification
 - simile
 - metaphor

...and on his forehead a cut had healed but left the hair stuck with blood and scab. His **eyes were slits** in the bites and he was – somehow- covered with dirt. He slapped the water with his hand to destroy **the mirror**. (page 69)

8. What type of figurative language is used in the bolded parts of this passage?
- metaphor
 - personification
 - simile
 - idiom

9. What did Brian see when he was picking raspberries?
- a pack of wolves
 - a cave
 - a bear
 - an abandoned hut

Then he made a sound, a low: “Nnnnnnggg.” It made no sense, was just a sound of fear, of disbelief that something large could have come so close to him without knowing. (Page 75)

10. Which of the following best describes the tone in this passage?
- panic
 - suspicion
 - gentle
 - courageous

Then he heard the slithering. A brushing sound, a slithering brushing sound near his feet –and he kicked out as hard as he could...(page 80)

11. This passage would cause most readers to predict that the intruder was a _____.
- snake
 - porcupine
 - fish
 - person

Sparks flew so heavily that several of them skittered and jumped on the sand beneath the rock and he smiled and struck again and again. (page 86)

12. What type of figurative language is included in this sentence?
- idiom
 - hyperbole
 - personification
 - simile

13. What does Brian do with the twenty dollar bill that was in his pocket?
 - a. He puts it in a bottle along with a letter and throws it in the water.
 - b. He buries it so he will have it when he leaves the island.
 - c. He tears it up and tries to use it to build a fire.
 - d. He uses it as a device to catch dew to drink.
14. Brian's attempts to make a fire fail several times, yet he continues to try different things. This shows that Brian is _____.
 - a. caring
 - b. confident
 - c. determined
 - d. brave

The sparks poured like a golden waterfall.

15. What type of figurative language is used in this passage?
 - a. idiom
 - b. metaphor
 - c. personification
 - d. simile
16. Once Brian builds a fire, which of the following **best** describes how he feels?
 - a. proud
 - b. relieved
 - c. stressed
 - d. calm
17. The fire will help Brian with all of the following except _____.
 - a. keeping the mosquitoes away
 - b. using it as a signal if a rescue plane were to come
 - c. cooking any food that he may find or kill
 - d. roasting and boiling peanuts
18. What new food does Brian discover?
 - a. turtle eggs
 - b. bananas
 - c. crabs
 - d. rabbit
19. Which of the following is a very important rule that Brian learns?
 - a. Fire can help, but it isn't everything.
 - b. Feeling sorry for yourself doesn't work.
 - c. In order to survive, you must talk out loud to yourself.
 - d. You can eat grass, and it acts as vitamins.
20. What is motivating Brian to keep going and trying to survive?
 - a. the hope that searchers will find him
 - b. the hope that he can keep his fire going
 - c. the desire to catch and kill animals for food
 - d. the desire to write a book about his experiences

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Test Chapters 6-10
Answer key

Number	Answer
1	b
2	d
3	c
4	b
5	b
6	d
7	b
8	a
9	c
10	a
11	a
12	c
13	c
14	c
15	d
16	a
17	d
18	a
19	b
20	a

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Chapter 11

Analyze Brian as a Character

A dynamic character is one who changes as a result of the story's events.

A static character is one who does not change much in the course of a story or novel.

A character's motivation is any force that drives or moves the character to do something or believe something.

Reread the following passage from page 105.

I am not the same, he thought. I see, I hear differently. He did not know when the change started, but it was there; when a sound came to him now he didn't just hear it but would know the sound. He would swing and look at it – a breaking twig, a movement of air – and know the sound as if he somehow could move his mind back down the wave of sound to the source.

1. Is Brian a static character or does it seem that he is becoming a dynamic character? _____

2. How is Brian changing?

3. What is the motivation behind these changes?

A round character is fully developed and you can list several character traits to describe him/her.

A flat character is not fully developed. We do not get to know a flat character very well and therefore can only name one or two traits to describe him/her.

Based on the novel so far, list as many traits as you can think of that describe Brian.

Traits:

Is Brian a round or a flat character? _____

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Chapter 12
Tone & Discussion

1. Which of the following best describes the tone at the beginning of this chapter when Brian decides to make a spear?
 - a. critical
 - b. factual
 - c. encouraging
 - d. concerned
2. Which of the following best describes the tone when Brian first hears the plane overhead?
 - a. suspicious and mysterious
 - b. anxious and exciting
 - c. sarcastic and amusing
 - d. mournful and revealing
3. Which of the following best describes the tone at the end of the chapter when the plane is gone?
 - a. hopeless
 - b. witty
 - c. stern
 - d. festive

Discussion

How does the changing tone reflect Brian’s changing state of mind in this chapter?

...He could not play the game without hope; could not play the game without a dream. They had taken it all away from him now, and they had turned away from him, and there was nothing for him now.

What “game” is being referred to in this passage? Why is it considered a game?

What do you predict will happen next? Will Brian completely give up all hope?

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Chapter 13

Discussion & Symbolism

In this chapter we learn what Brian did after the plane was out of sight and he knew it was not coming for him. Paraphrase what Brian did after the plane left.

After waking up and finding himself “still there”, how does Brian change? What does he vow to never let happen to him? (Reread pages 122-123)

At the end of this chapter, we find that Brian has a new motivation. It used to be a rescue that motivated him. What is his new hope and motivation?

Symbolism

A symbol is something that stands for something else, like the American flag stands for freedom, and a dove represents peace. 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.

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

What might the wolf symbolize in this chapter?

Look back at pages 120-121 to help you answer this question.

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Chapter 14
Author's Craft

Mistakes.

This one word is used seven times in this chapter. Why does Gary Paulsen repeat this word? What effect does it have on the story and on the reader?

Let's see if we can create a similar effect. Instead of focusing on mistakes, write a few paragraphs focusing on his successes. In order to add emphasis, model Paulsen's writing technique of repetition. Before narrating each accomplishment that Brian has made while being stranded on the island, first write the word *Success*.

Before beginning, make a list of all of the achievements or successes that Brian has made while on the island.

Achievements:

Now rewrite a portion of this chapter. Using Paulsen as a model, narrate Brian's successes. Begin by writing the single word *success*.

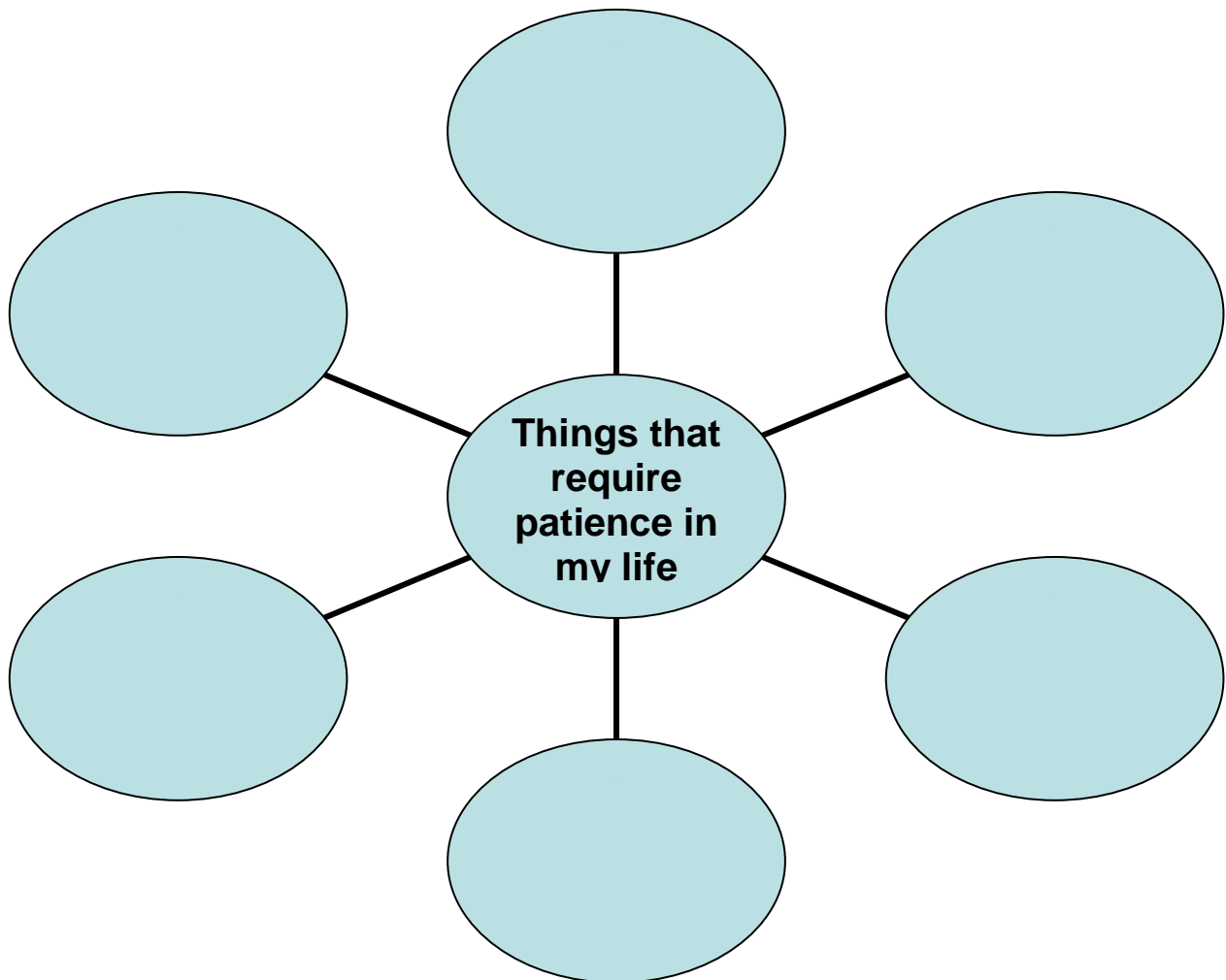
Hatchet
Chapter 15
Writing Opportunity

Patience, he thought. So much of this was patience – waiting and thinking and doing things right. So much of all of this, so much of all living was patience and thinking. (page 145)

Brian realizes this truth when having to wait to eat the bird that he killed. Think of something in your life that holds true to this message. It could be becoming skilled at a sport, learning math, or how to deal with struggles or fears in your life.

Write an essay describing something in your life that needs patience and thinking. Explain why.

Use the following graphic organizer to brainstorm different things in your life that require a lot of patience.



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Test on Chapters 11- 15

1. Brian is becoming _____.
 - a. more observant
 - b. more fearful of his situation
 - c. a skilled fox hunter
 - d. a skilled gardener

From his height he could see not just the lake but across part of the forest, a green carpet, and it was full of life.

2. What type of figurative language is used in this passage?
 - a. idiom
 - b. hyperbole
 - c. metaphor
 - d. personification
3. How did Brian catch fish?
 - a. with a fishing rod that he created out of a branch
 - b. with a bow and arrow
 - c. by quickly snatching them up with his hands
 - d. by trapping them in a cage that he made

Look back, he thought. Look back and see the smoke now and turn, please turn. "Look back," he whispered, feeling all the pictures fade, seeing his father's face fade like the sound, like lost dreams, like an end to hope.

4. Which of the following is the **best** tone of this passage?
 - a. revealing
 - b. disappointment
 - c. desperation
 - d. critical

He could not play the game without hope; could not play the game without a dream.

5. By calling his survival "a game" Gary Paulsen is using a(n) _____.
 - a. idiom
 - b. hyperbole
 - c. metaphor
 - d. simile

It had happened before this way, something had come into him from outside to warn him and he had stopped...He paid attention to the feeling now and he stood and waited, patiently, knowing he was right and that something would come.

6. What literary device is used in this passage?
 - a. foreshadowing
 - b. flashback
 - c. imagery
 - d. symbolism

*Brian looked back and for a moment felt afraid because the wolf was so...so right. **He knew Brian, knew him and owned him** and chose not to do anything with him.*

7. What does the bolded part of this passage mean?
- Brian belongs to the wolf because it can smell him.
 - The wolf can kill him if it chooses.
 - The wolf is afraid of Brian.
 - The wolf is going to kill Brian.

He was not the same now- the Brian that stood and watched the wolves move away and nodded to them was completely changed.

8. This passage proves that Brian is a _____ character.
- flat
 - round
 - dynamic
 - static
9. What did Brian do right after the plane flew by and out of sight?
- He got very depressed to the point that he no longer wanted to live.
 - He continued to send signals into the sky for three days.
 - He became sick and passed out for days.
 - He was excited because he knew the plane would be back for him.
10. What happened when Brian tried out his first bow and arrow that he made?
- He killed a bird on his first shot.
 - He got his arrow stuck in a tree.
 - The bow wood exploded in his hands.
 - The bow broke in half.

With his bow, with an arrow fashioned by his own hands he had done food, had found a way to live. The bow had given him this way and he exulted in it...

11. The bow and arrow symbolize _____.
- his means to survive
 - his pride
 - the island
 - his strong will
12. What is Brian's new motivation at this point in the novel?
- to be rescued
 - to write a autobiography about his trials
 - to become famous
 - to survive and take care of himself
13. Brian learns that _____ is everything.
- peace of mind
 - food
 - shelter
 - a good attitude

14. What eats Brian's turtle eggs?
- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| a. a skunk | c. a bear |
| b. a beaver | d. a snake |

His mother had left some salmon out by mistake one time when they went on an overnight trip to Cape Hesper to visit relatives and when they got back the smell filled the whole house. There was no way to store fish. (page 134)

15. What literary technique is used in this passage?

- a. imagery
- b. symbolism
- c. flashback
- d. suspense

16. How does Brian end up storing fish?

- a. inside a cooler that he made
- b. on a shelf that he built in a tree
- c. in an enclosure that he made in the water
- d. in a hole in the ground

17. How was Brian finally able to kill a foolbird?

- a. He snuck right up to it.
- b. He learned that he had to shoot it in the chest.
- c. He finally noticed the shape of the bird and could see them better.
- d. He finally noticed how the birds slept and could sneak up on them better.

Time and again he drew, held, and let arrows fly but he still had no feathers on the arrows and they were little more than sticks that flopped out of the bow... (page 142)

18. What type of figurative language is used in this sentence?

- a. idiom
- b. metaphor
- c. personification
- d. simile

*His mother **from the old time, from the time before**, would bake it. (page 143)*

19. What does the bolded part of this sentence mean?

- a. from the time before his mother had an affair
- b. from the time before his mother met his father
- c. from the time before Brian was stranded on the island
- d. from the time before his mother learned to cook

Patience, he thought. So much of this was patience - waiting and thinking and doing things right. So much of all of this, so much of all living was patience and thinking. (page 145)

20. This passage sounds mainly like _____.

- a. symbolism
- b. a theme
- c. imagery
- d. tone

Hatchet
Test Chapters 11-15
Answer key

Number	Answer
1	a
2	c
3	b
4	c
5	c
6	b
7	b
8	c
9	a
10	c
11	a
12	d
13	b
14	a
15	c
16	c
17	c
18	b
19	a
20	b

Hatchet

Chapter 16

Conflict

There are two types of conflict: internal and external.

An internal conflict takes place within a character's mind. It is a conflict that a character has within him/herself.

- man vs. himself (character vs. him/herself)

An external conflict is a conflict that a character has with someone or something else.

- man vs. man (character vs. character)
- man vs. nature (character vs. nature)
- man vs. society (character vs. society)

Brian has had several conflicts so far throughout the novel. Use the chart below to analyze the type of conflicts.

Page #	Summary of Conflict	Type of Conflict
32	Brian saw his mother sitting in a station wagon with another man...He is angry with the "secret"	
150-152	Brian is attacked by a moose!	
155-156	A tornado hits!	

Discussion

1. Go back and read pages 155 -156. Notice how the tornado is personified. Copy one example of personification of the storm. How does this personification add to or enhance the conflict?

2. Explain why *Back to Square One* would be a good title for this chapter.

Hatchet
Chapter 17
Context Clues

Let's take a look at some words that you can learn from this chapter by using context clues.

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

1. *The flames cut the cool damp morning, crackled and did much to bring his spirits up, not to mention chasing away the **incessant** mosquitoes.*
 - a. humongous
 - b. continuous
 - c. fluttering
 - d. ridiculous
2. *He jerked and dragged wood around until the wall was once more in place – **crudely**, but he could improve it later.*
 - a. in a sturdy way
 - b. in a poor way
 - c. tightly
 - d. securely
3. *...A raft... Which, he found **ruefully**, was much easier said than done.*
 - a. in a sad way
 - b. annoyingly
 - c. excitingly
 - d. in an angry way
4. *... And for a moment he was **stymied**. He had no rope, only the bowstring and the other cut shoestring in his tennis shoes...*
 - a. hindered
 - b. successful
 - c. happy
 - d. sad

What would you do?

1. Do you think it is a good idea to try to get inside the plane. If so, how would you try to get in the plane?

2. Make a list of all of the things you would want to find in the survival pack. Then make a list of the things that would help Brian.

Things I would want:	Things that could help Brian:

Hatchet Chapter 18

Strong Verbs are words that describe the action in a sentence. Some verbs are said to be stronger than others, and these are the ones that tend to make your writing more effective. Here's how it works: take a verb like fall and another verb with a similar meaning like plunge. Now, compare these two sentences: (1) I watched the rock fall into the water. (2) I watched the rock plunge into the water. In the first sentence, you learn that the rock fell, but in the second sentence you also learn *how* the rock fell. The word plunge means "to enter quickly and forcibly into something". So, when I say plunge, I get all the meaning of the verb fall, plus the additional meaning that explains *how* the rock fell as well. That is what makes it stronger! Strong verbs SHOW, not just TELL!

Read the following passages. Underline each strong verb, and then complete the chart. There may be more than one strong verb per sentence.

- A. *He slammed his fist against the body of the plane and to his complete surprise the aluminum covering gave easily under his blow.*
- B. *He clawed down six or seven more feet, the pressure pushing in his ears until he held his nose and popped them...*
- C. *He clutched it and in one motion slammed his feet down into the mud...*
- D. *He eeled in through the cables and formers, wiggling and pulling until he was inside the tail with he head clear of the surface...*

Strong Verb Used	Explain why this is an effective verb choice
A	
B	
C	
D	

Hatchet

Chapter 19

Situational Irony

Situational irony occurs when what actually happens in a situation is the opposite of what we expect. Situational irony results from recognizing the oddness or unfairness of a given situation. Often, situational irony gives the reader a feeling of surprise or unfairness.

Examples of situational irony

- A man who has been afraid to fly in a plane all of his life finally has the courage to do it, and during his flight, the plane crashes.
- A woman who decides to go on a diet receives a year's supply of chocolate on the same day her diet begins.
- A fire house catches on fire.

Come up with your own example of situational irony.

What is ironic about the timing of the rescue plane? Explain why this is ironic.

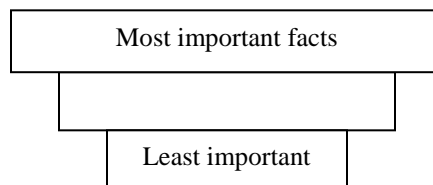
With this situational irony, do you think it gives the reader more of a surprise or a feeling of unfairness? Explain your answer.

Hatchet News Report

Pretend that you are a news reporter reporting on Brian’s time spent alone on the island.

Create a headline and write the 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 - and How?
- A news report is arranged in an “inverted pyramid” style. This means that the facts are arranged from most important to least important.



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 things end up?**

You can make up quotes that Brian would say to a reporter. Just make sure your quotes are based on him as a character and fit his personality. Think about all of the problems he faced and the things he learned. These would make good quotes.

My headline

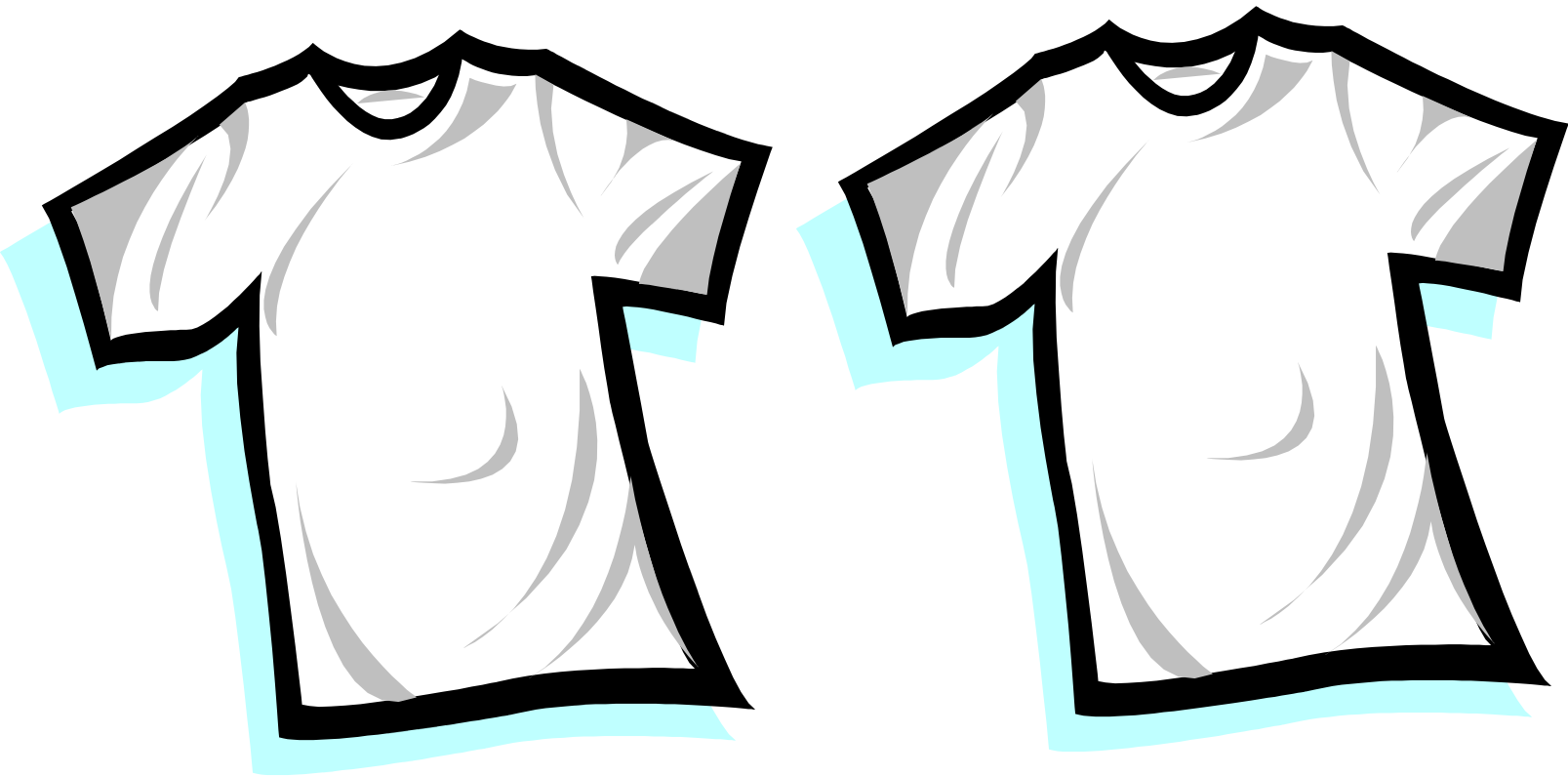
Hatchet Mottos

A motto is a word or phrase that describes a principle that someone lives by. By thinking of mottos of Brian, 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 Brian, and create mottos for him. Think about his personality, ambition, and goals, and make sure the motto is something that Brian would want to live by. Your final mottos should be themes from the novel.

Complete the following Tshirts with Brian's name and motto.



Hatchet

Final Test

1. Which of the following **best** describes Brian's attitude toward his mother?
 - a. critical and angry
 - b. obedient and submissive
 - c. admiring yet doubtful
 - d. disrespectful yet understanding
2. Which of the following is the best overall tone of this novel?
 - a. factual and formal
 - b. profound and serious
 - c. lighthearted and touching
 - d. suspenseful and adventurous
3. Which of the following would **not** be a theme for this novel?
 - a. Self-pity will get you nowhere.
 - b. If you try hard enough, you can achieve anything.
 - c. Everyone needs friends.
 - d. To be a survivor, you can never give up.
4. In the novel, the use of the third-person limited point of view allows the author to _____.
 - a. share only Brian's inner thoughts and feelings
 - b. concentrate on creating unusual characters
 - c. share what many of the characters are thinking and feeling
 - d. describe the story's setting in vivid details.
5. Which of the following best describes Brian?
 - a. brave and determined
 - b. playful and energetic
 - c. caring and shy
 - d. all of the above
6. Which of the following describes an internal conflict from the novel?
 - a. A tornado hits the island.
 - b. Brian struggles with what his mom has done.
 - c. Brian argues with the pilot.
 - d. None of these
7. At the end of the novel, the reader can conclude that Brian will _____.
 - a. remain on the island
 - b. go on the Survivor television show
 - c. go back home and tell others about his experiences
 - d. learn to fly a plane
8. This novel deals with all of the following issues except _____.
 - a. hiding the truth
 - b. victories and defeats
 - c. importance of attitude and self motivation
 - d. race and religion

9. Which of the following helped Brian the most to survive?
- the hatchet
 - his shoestrings
 - his watch
 - his gun

So insane, he thought, letting sleep cover the pain in his chest-such an insane attack for no reason...(page 153)

10. Why is the word *insane* repeated several times when Brian is attacked by the moose?
- to emphasize how crazy Brian thought the situation was
 - to emphasize how the moose had gone crazy
 - to draw attention to the writer's style
 - to add a spooky tone

At the same time the wind tore at the fire and sprayed red coals and sparks in a cloud around him. Then it backed out, seemed to hesitate momentarily, and returned with a massive roar... (page 155)

11. What type of figurative language is used in this passage?
- idiom
 - metaphor
 - personification
 - simile

*...and inside of one day, just one day, he had been run over by a moose and a tornado, and lost everything and was **back to square one**. Just like that.*

12. *Back to square one* is a(n) _____.
- simile
 - metaphor
 - idiom
 - hyperbole

13. After the tornado, what hurts Brian?
- his legs
 - his head
 - his stomach
 - his ribs

...He came up and took air like a whale, pushing the stale air out until he wheezed, taking new in. (page 176)

14. What type of figurative language is used in this passage?
- hyperbole
 - idiom
 - metaphor
 - simile

15. How did Brian get inside the plane again?
- He swam through an open window.
 - He cut through the aluminum with his hatchet.
 - He tied a rope to the plane and used it to split it in half.
 - He pried open the door to the plane with his hatchet.

16. What does the hatchet symbolize?
 - a. survival and hope
 - b. food and water
 - c. Brian's pride and determination
 - d. his mother's love for him
17. What mistake does Brian make when he is trying to get inside the sunken plane?
 - a. He cuts his hand.
 - b. He drops his hatchet.
 - c. He swallows too much water.
 - d. He loses the survival bag.
18. Which of the following items were **not** found in the survival pack?
 - a. a sleeping bag
 - b. pots and pans
 - c. a cap
 - d. money
19. What changed Brian the minute he picked it up?
 - a. the rifle
 - b. the food from the pack
 - c. the emergency transmitter
 - d. the compass
20. What was ironic about the rescue?
 - a. He was rescued right after he turned thirteen.
 - b. He was rescued right after he had found the survival pack.
 - c. He had survived for so long.
 - d. He knew the man who came to rescue him.

**Hatchet
Final Test
Answer key**

Number	Answer
1	a
2	d
3	c
4	a
5	a
6	b
7	c
8	d
9	a
10	a
11	c
12	c
13	d
14	d
15	b
16	a
17	b
18	d
19	a
20	b

Hatchet
The ABCs of Hatchet

Name _____

Directions: Think of words that are important to *Hatchet*. Then, place the word in the appropriate box. Make sure you are able to explain why each word relates to the novel.

A	B	C	D
E	F	G	H
I	J	K	L
M	N	O	P
Q	R	S	T
U	V	WX	YZ

Hatchet

Compare/Contrast

Brian changes a lot in the course of this novel. Draw a Venn diagram, and compare and contrast the “old Brian” to the “new Brian”.

Hatchet “I Am” Poem

Pretend that you are Brian. Complete the following I Am poem as if you were him before he was rescued from the island. Write the first two words of each stanza, and then follow the directions in parenthesis to finish each line.

I am (two special characteristics that describe Brian)
I wonder (something he would be curious about)
I hear (something he would hear on the island)
I see (an imaginary sight)
I want (an actual desire Brian would have)
I am (repeat the first line)

I pretend (something Brian would pretend to do)
I feel (a feeling about something imaginary)
I touch (an imaginary touch that Brian might touch)
I worry (something that worries Brian)
I cry (something that would make Brian sad)
I am (repeat the first line)

I understand (something that Brian has found to be true)
I say (something that Brian believes)
I dream (something he dreams of)
I try (something Brian would make an effort about)
I hope (something Brian hopes for)
I am (repeat the first line)

Example of first stanza... You can do even better than this!!

*I am determined and brave
I wonder if I will meet the wolf again
I see the bear becoming my friend
I want to find new foods
I am determined and brave*

Write your own on a separate sheet of paper.

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