

Tuck Everlasting

By Natalie Babbitt

A Teaching Unit



S&T Publications, LLC

Tammy D. Sutherland ••• Shannon B. Temple

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Tuck Everlasting Teaching Unit ~ Table of Contents

Pre-Reading Activity	4
Chapter Titles	5
Chapters 1 & 2 ~ Personification to Create Imagery	7
Chapters 3 & 4 ~ Imagery	8
Chapters 5 & 6 ~ Conflict, Onomatopoeia, Similes	9
After Chapter 5 ~ Point of View	10
Chapters 7 & 8 ~ Creating a Comic Strip	11
Test ~ Chapters 1-8	13
Answer Key Chapters 1-8	16
Chapters 9 & 10 ~ Context Clues, Discussion, Venn-diagram	18
Chapters 11 & 12 ~ Symbolism, Dialect and Dialogue	19
After Chapter 12 ~ Imagery & Figurative Language to Artwork	20
Chapters 13 & 14 ~ Readers' Theater	21
Chapters 15 & 16 ~ Irony	25
Test ~ Chapters 9-16	26
Answer Key Chapters 9-16	28
Chapters 17 & 18 ~ Strong and Vivid Verbs	29
Chapter 19 ~ Discussion	30
Chapter 19 ~ Propaganda, Advertisement Project	31
Chapters 20, 21 & 22 ~ Poetry Writing	33
Chapters 23 & 24 ~ Poetry Analysis	39
Chapter 25 & Epilogue ~ Silent Passage Analysis	40
Theme	41
Writing Opportunity ~ News Report	42
Who's Who When it Comes to Characters	44
Writing a Cinquain	45
Literary Elements Scavenger Hunt	46
Final Test	47
Answer Key Chapter 17-Epilogue	51
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Tuck Everlasting
After chapter 5 ~ Point of View

Name _____

Date _____

The **point of view** of a story makes all the difference in the world. If a character is telling the story, the first person point of view is used. If none of the characters are telling the story, and an unseen narrator is telling it, the third person point of view is being used. If the narrator focuses on only one character, the limited third person point of view is used. If the narrator allows the reader to know thoughts and feelings of one character, then another's, then another's, the third person omniscient point of view is used.

Answer only one easy question to decide if this story is told in the first person point of view. If the answer is yes, it is first person!

- Is one of the characters telling this story? _____

Answer these questions to decide if the point of view is third person limited:

- Is there an unseen narrator telling the story?
- Is the focus on one particular character all of the time?
- When the focal character leaves the room in a story do you know what is going on with the other characters while that character is gone?

Answer these questions to decide if the point of view is third person omniscient:

- Is there an unseen narrator telling the story?
- Does the reader have access to the thoughts (not actions) of more than one character?
- Does the focus go from one character to another character, and then another?

Mae Tuck didn't need a mirror, though she had one propped up on the washstand. She knew very well what she would see in it; her reflection had long since ceased to interest her. (page 12)

After reading this passage, do we know what Mae is thinking and feeling? _____

"See?" Winnie said to the toad. "That's just what I mean. It's like that every minute. If I had a sister or a brother, there'd be someone else for them to watch...I'm tired of being looked at all of the time. (page 14)

After reading this passage, do we know what Winnie is thinking and feeling? _____

"Thank goodness!" said Jesse, blowing out his cheeks in relief. "Here come Ma and Miles. They'll know what to do." (page 29)

After reading this passage, do we know what Jesse is thinking and feeling? _____

What point of view is used in this novel? _____

Read the passage and answer questions 15 - 18.

Closing the gate on her oldest fears as she closed the gate of her own fenced yard, she discovered the wings she wished she had. And all at once she was elated. Where were the terrors she'd been told she should expect? She could not recognize them anywhere. The sweet earth opened out its wide four corners to her like the petals of a flower ready to be picked, and it shimmered with light and possibility till she was dizzy with it. Her mother's voice, the feel of home, receded for the moment, and her thoughts tumbled forward.

1. What is the tone of this passage?
 - a. boredom
 - b. restful
 - c. resentful
 - d. excitement
2. What is the best interpretation of the simile in the passage?
 - a. Winnie loves to pick flowers.
 - b. Flowers grow in the earth.
 - c. Winnie feels safe when she sees flowers because they remind of her of home.
 - d. Winnie is ready to do even more exploring and discovering of the world on her own.
3. What does this passage most clearly convey to the reader about Winnie?
 - a. She is very happy about being able to return home soon.
 - b. She feels trapped by the gates at her house.
 - c. She is relieved to be moving away from her childlike fears and towards a bit of independence.
 - d. She is feeling a bit faint after her fast horse ride through the forest.
4. Which word in the following thesaurus entry would be the best replacement for receded as it is used in the passage?

Recede: v. syn. decrease; retreat; withdraw; retract

 - a. decrease
 - b. retreat
 - c. withdraw
 - d. retract
5. At this point in the novel, which character would you describe as being round?
 - a. Winnie
 - b. the man in the yellow suit
 - c. Grandmother Foster
 - d. Angus Tuck
6. What made the music that Winnie and Grandmother Foster heard in the wood?
 - a. elves
 - b. the man in the yellow suit playing a guitar
 - c. a music box
 - d. wind chimes left in a tree

Tuck Everlasting
After Chapter 12 ~ Imagery & Figurative Language to Artwork

Name: _____ Date: _____

The sky was a ragged blaze of red and pink and orange, and its double trembled on the surface of the pond like color spilled from a paintbox. The sun was dropping fast now, a soft red sliding egg yolk, and already to the east there was a darkening to purple.

1. Underline the imagery in the above passage.
2. Circle the two metaphors (comparing two unlike things by calling one the other) in the passage.
3. Draw a box around the simile (comparing two unlike things using the words like or as).
4. What is meant by "its double trembled on the surface of the pond"?

5. All of the imagery and figurative language in this passage really puts a picture in our minds! Let's draw what we see in our mind's eye. On a separate sheet of paper, draw the scene described as Winnie and Tuck climb into the rowboat. Make sure you rely on the imagery to draw and color your picture just as Natalie Babbitt describes it.

Tuck Everlasting
Chapters 23 & 24 ~ Poetry Analysis

Name _____

Date _____

While Winnie stands in the darkness outside of the jailhouse, she has lines from an old poem in her head:

*Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage.*

These lines are found in a poem written by Richard Lovelace titled "Stone Walls Do Not a Prison Make". After reading the poem carefully, write an interpretation of the poem in the margin beside it, then answer the questions that follow.

Stone Walls Do Not a Prison Make

Stone walls do not a prison make,
Nor iron bars a cage;
Minds innocent and quiet take
That for an **hermitage***;
If I have freedom in my love,
And in my soul am free,
Angels alone that soar above
Enjoy such liberty.

Richard Lovelace
1618 - 1657

***her·mit·age:** \hər-mə-tij\; *noun*

Date: 14th century

1 a : the habitation of a hermit **b :** a secluded residence or private retreat; hideaway **c:** monastery **2 :** the life or condition of a hermit

1. Who is the speaker of the poem? _____
2. Which of the following is the best theme for this poem?
 - a. Angels are beautiful and protective.
 - b. Children have innocent minds.
 - c. Only you have the power to imprison your mind.
 - d. The mind is a terrible thing to waste.
3. Which of the following is the best overall tone of this poem?
 - a. harsh and hateful
 - b. honest and profound
 - c. humorous and lighthearted
 - d. eloquent and encouraging
4. After reading the poem and the dictionary entry, which of the following would be a synonym for **hermitage**?
 - a. a large castle
 - b. a refuge
 - c. a sail boat
 - d. a shell
5. What is the rhyme scheme of the poem?
 - a. AABCCDD
 - b. ABCBCAB
 - c. ABABCDCD
 - d. None of these, it is free verse.

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