



STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 6-8

Kirra- Kirra

Cynthia Kadohata

READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

Kira - Kira

Cynthia Kadohata

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NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

ISBN 978-1-50204-730-4

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Name _____

Vocabulary Word Map

dismayed (2)	huddled (4)	Oriental (7)	poultry (8)
hatchery (8)	triumph (8)	deformed (8)	sweltering (9)
delicate (9)	enveloping (10)	gossiping (10)	nonsense (10)
unruffled (11)	strictly (13)		

Directions: Choose five vocabulary words from the list above and complete a word map for each word.

<p style="text-align: center;">Synonyms</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p style="text-align: center;">Magazine cut-out, drawing, or symbol that shows what the word means</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Word</p> <hr/>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Definition in your own words</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<p style="text-align: center;">Word used in a sentence</p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

Directions: Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. Starred questions indicate thought or opinion questions. Use your answers in class discussions, for writing assignments, and to review for tests.

Chapter 1, pp. 1–13

1. How did Lynn teach Katie to say her first word?
2. Why does Katie know a lot about when she was a little girl?
3. Why does Lynn think that the blue of the sky is a special color? What else does Lynn consider special for the same reason?
4. *What is Lynn’s reaction to her sister throwing a milk bottle at the mean dog? What does this tell you about Lynn?
5. What does Lynn say she will teach Katie?
6. What is hidden under the refrigerator? What is its purpose?
7. Why does the family owe Uncle Katsuhisa?
8. What does *Kibei* mean? Which characters does it describe?
9. *How does Katie keep her mother from knowing her thoughts? Why does this work?
10. Why does Katie say she will never be a thinker like her father?

Chapter 2, pp. 14–23

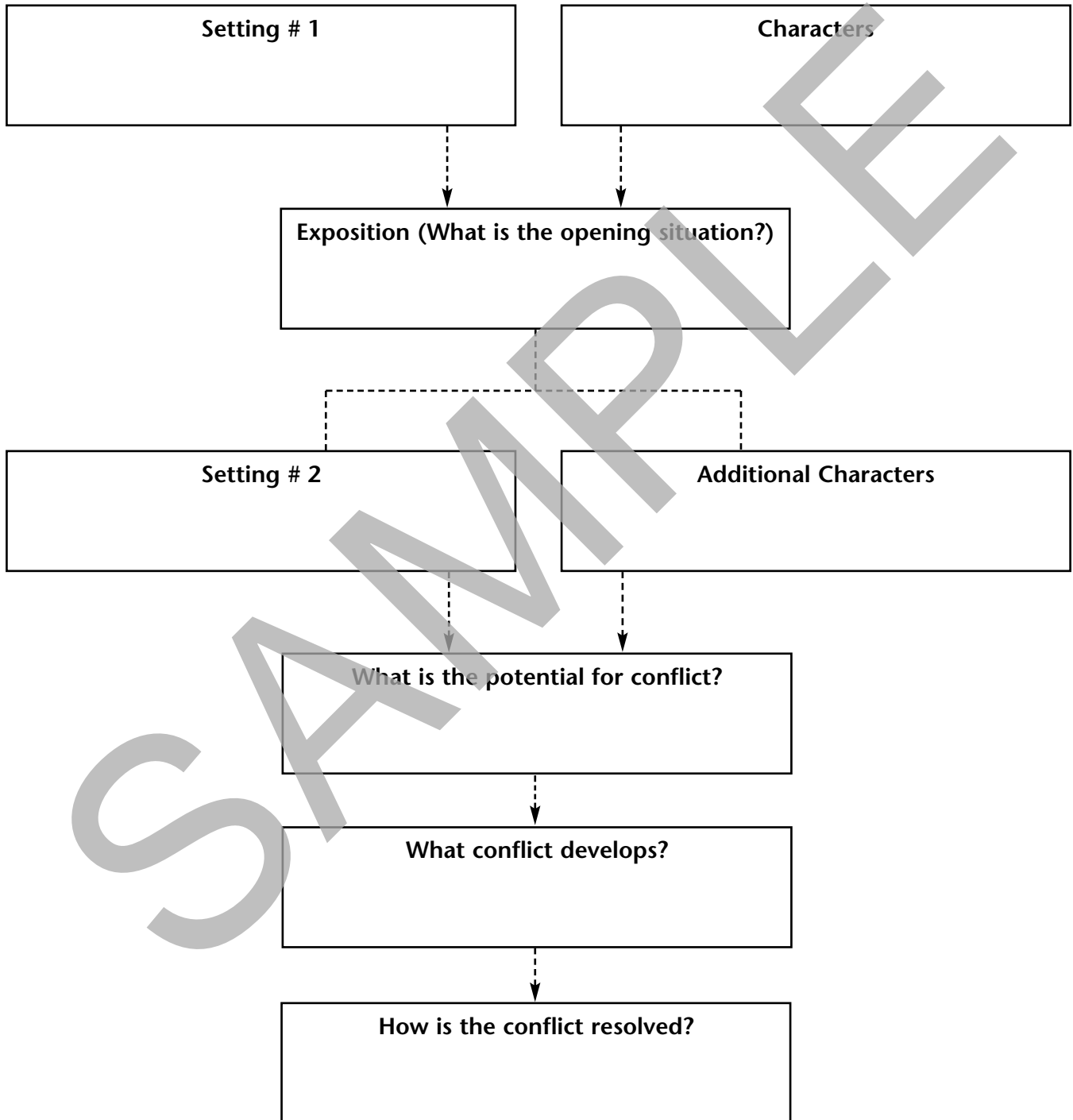
1. What makes Katie’s parents feel safe?
2. How does Katie’s father describe her mother?
3. What makes Katie feel safe?
4. Why can’t Katie sleep the night before moving to Georgia?
5. What four reasons does Katie list for leaving late?
6. Why does Mother suggest the girls ride with their uncle?
7. How is a decision reached on whether the girls will ride in the truck or the car?
8. What are Katie’s concerns about living in Georgia?
9. How does Uncle Katsuhisa stop the girls’ hysterics?

Chapter 3, pp. 24–41

1. What are Lynn’s plans for the future? How does Katie feel about the future?
2. *What decision does Katie make about Uncle Katsuhisa and his lucky chess set? Do you approve of her decision? Why or why not?
3. Why does Katie’s father pay the woman at the motel two dollars extra?
4. Who are the Ainu?

Name _____

Story Map



Name _____

Effects of Reading

Directions: When reading, each part of a book may affect you in a different way. Think about how parts of the novel affected you in different ways. Did some parts make you laugh? cry? want to do something to help someone? Below, list one part of the book that touched each of the following parts of the body: your head (made you think), your heart (made you feel), your funny bone (made you laugh), or your feet (spurred you to action).

Your head

Your heart

Your funny bone

Your feet