



STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 3-5

M.C. Higgins, the Great

Virginia Hamilton

READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

M.C. Higgins, the Great

Virginia Hamilton

STUDENT PACKET

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 978-1-50204-768-7

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Name _____

7. What is Mr. Killburn going to show M.C. and Lurhetta?
8. Why are the vegetables kept in pits?
9. What does Mr. Killburn show the children in the covered basket?
10. What does Ben's old great-grandmother give to M.C.?
11. What does M.C. pick up on the bridge?

Chapter 13, pages 240-257

1. Who comes to M.C.'s house right before twilight?
2. Why doesn't the dude record M.C.'s mother yodeling as she comes home from work?
3. How do Banina's children show her respect?
4. What is M.C.'s family going to eat for supper?
5. After the dude gives Banina the tape of her recorded voice, where does he say he is going?
6. What does the dude notice as he leaves M.C.'s house?
7. Is the dude going to sell Banina's voice in Nashville? Why?
8. What does Lennie ask Banina to do?
9. Does Banina ever meet Lurhetta?
10. Why doesn't Banina let M.C. go down the mountain to look for Lurhetta?

Chapter 14, pages 258-278

1. What does Banina want M.C. to do before he leaves the house?
2. What is Banina doing early in the morning?
3. What does M.C. want his mother to look at outside?
4. Why can't M.C. run down the mountain?
5. What does M.C. wish he had on as he walks down the mountain?
6. Who has disappeared without a trace?
7. What is stuck in the ground where the tent used to be?
8. Who does M.C. meet on the mountain?
9. What does M.C. catch in the rabbit trap?
10. What does M.C. consider his pole to be now that he has talked with Banina?
11. What materials does M.C. use begin to make a wall?
12. Who first helps M.C. build the wall?
13. Who finally helps M.C. build a wall? How?
14. Why is M.C. building the wall?

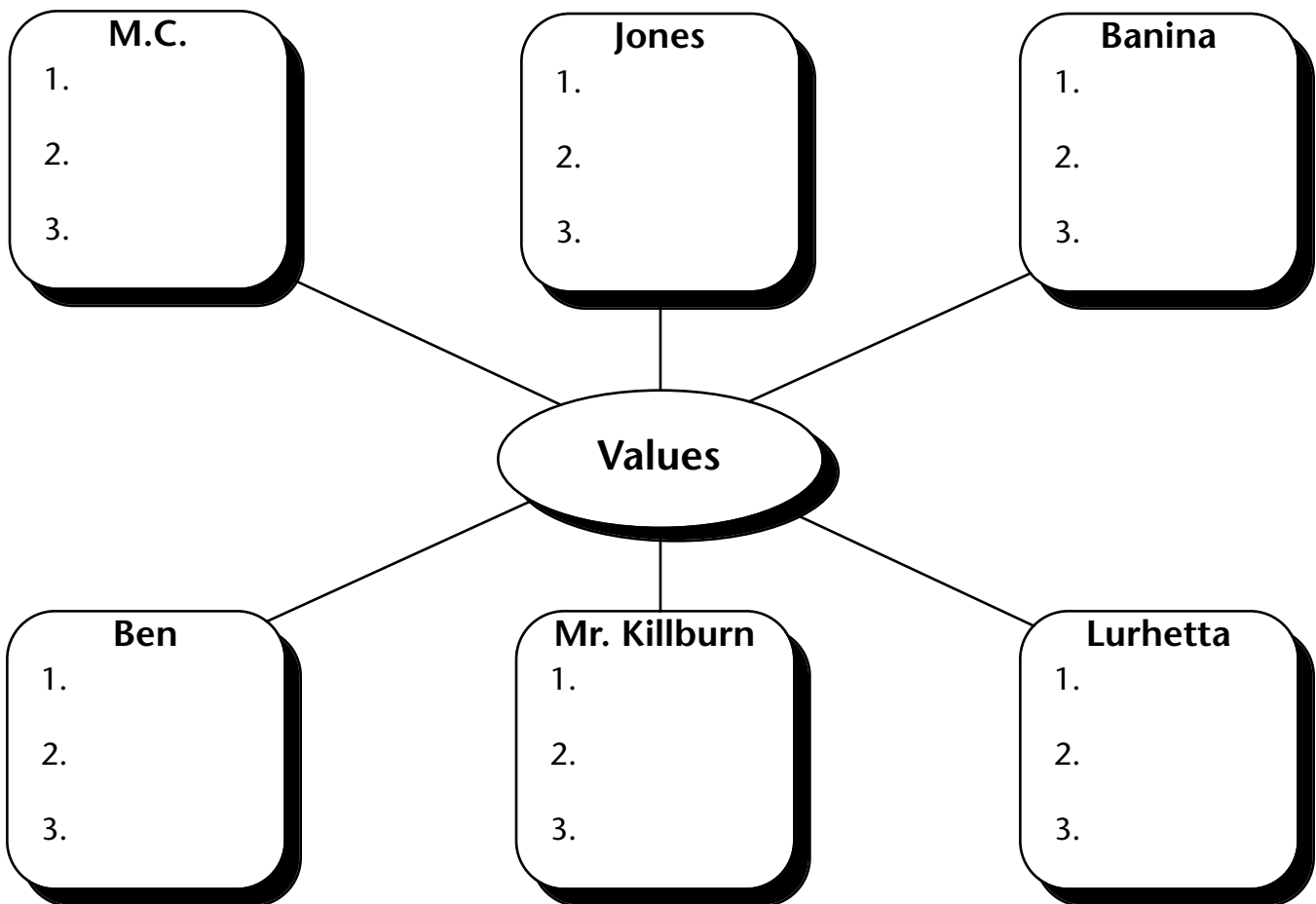
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Understanding Values

Values represent people’s beliefs about what is important, good, or worthwhile. For example, most families consider spending time together as very important — it is something they value.

Think about the following characters from *M.C. Higgins, The Great* and the values they have: M.C., Jones, Banina, Ben, Mr. Killburn, and Lurhetta. What do they value? What beliefs do they have about what is important, good, or worthwhile?

Directions: On the chart below, list each character’s three most important values, from most important to least. Be prepared to share your lists during a class discussion.



After you have finished the chart and participated in the class discussion, think about which character seems to have values most like your own. Write a paragraph that explains why you chose this character.