

Student Packet

Grades 7–8

The Pigman

Paul Zindel

NOVEL UNITS[®]



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THE PIGMAN

by
Paul Zindel

Student Packet

Written by
Deborah Miller and
Mary L. Dennis

Contains masters for:

- 1 Initiating Activity
- 2 Creative Writing Activities
- 2 Literary Analysis Activities
- 2 Critical Thinking Activities
- 5 Vocabulary Activities
- 1 Study Guide
- 3 Comprehension Quizzes
- 1 Objective Unit Test
- 1 Essay Unit Test
- Ideas for Projects and Themes
- Detailed Answer Key

PLUS

Note

The text used to prepare this guide was the Bantam Starfire softcover, published by arrangement with Harper and Row, Inc., ©1968 by Paul Zindel. The page references may differ in the hardcover or other paperback editions.

Please note: Please assess the appropriateness of this book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading and discussing it with your class.

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Name _____

For this activity, you will need to cooperate with a group of classmates. You have several tasks to complete. The first is to assign group roles:

I. Group Member:

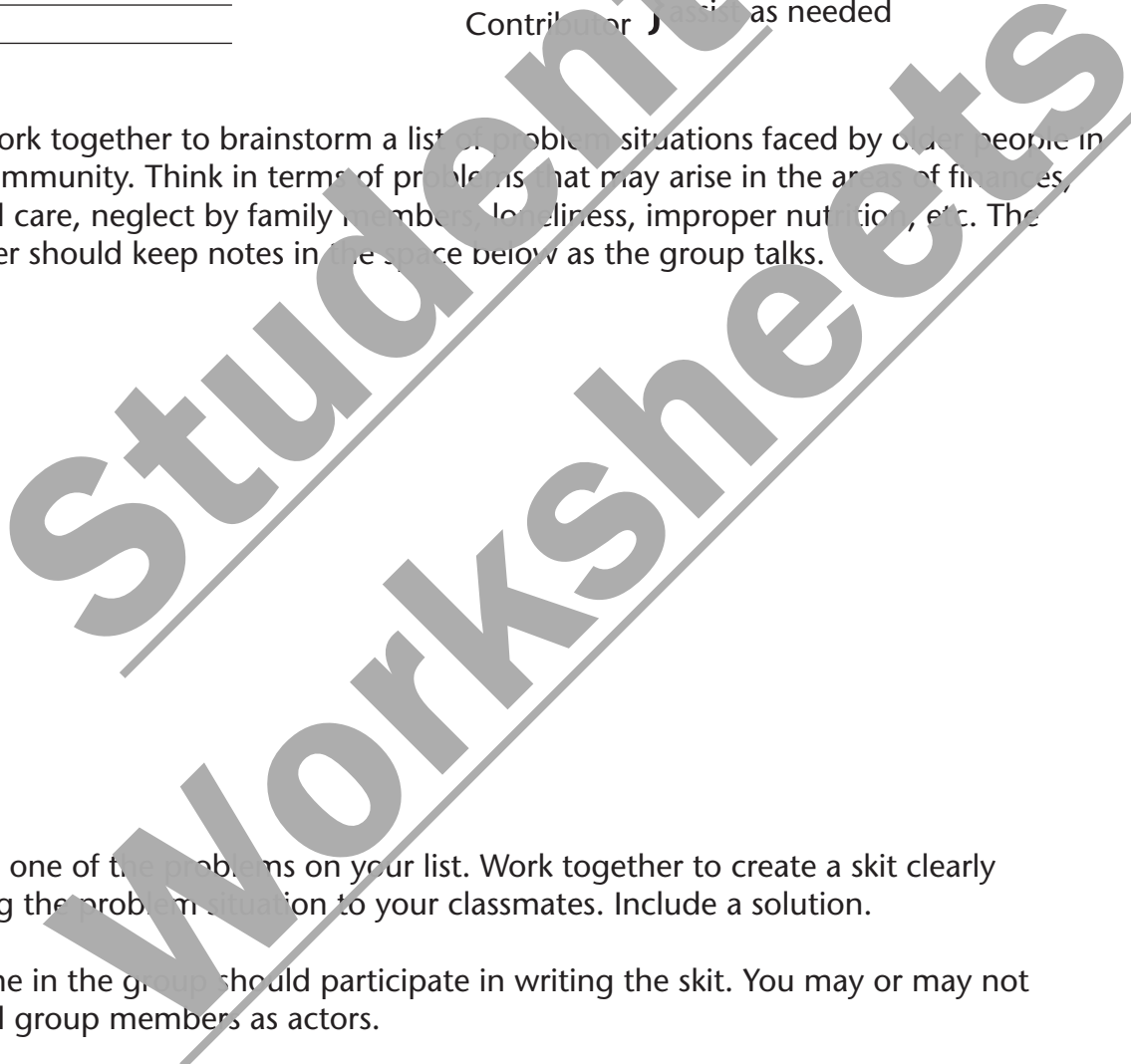
Role in Group

- Discussion Director (leads discussion)
- Recorder (keeps notes for II, below)
- Writer (writes skit for III below)
- Contributor
- Contributor (as needed)

II. Now work together to brainstorm a list of problem situations faced by older people in your community. Think in terms of problems that may arise in the areas of finances, medical care, neglect by family members, loneliness, improper nutrition, etc. The Recorder should keep notes in the space below as the group talks.

III. Choose one of the problems on your list. Work together to create a skit clearly showing the problem situation to your classmates. Include a solution.

Everyone in the group should participate in writing the skit. You may or may not need all group members as actors.



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Name _____

Next to the correct definition, write the vocabulary word from the box. Then, where indicated by a blank line, write an antonym for the vocabulary word.

epic	innocent	phony	incandescent
commemorative	subliminally	repress	infantile
destructive	distorts	compassion	paranoia

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Student Worksheets

	Vocabulary Word	Antonym
1.	perceived below the conscious level	_____
2.	childish	_____
3.	delusions of persecution or grandeur	_____
4.	a long poem or story	_____
5.	inexperienced/not guilty	_____
6.	fake	_____
7.	sympathy, feeling	_____
8.	causing damage	_____
9.	glowing	_____
10.	celebratory	_____
11.	changes	_____
12.	restrain	_____

Chapters 11 and 12

1. John and Lorraine identified themselves as who to the police and nurses? How did the Pigman react to this?
2. When Mr. Pignati said John and Lorraine could use his house while he was in the hospital, Lorraine refused but John agreed. How do their responses “fit” their personalities?
3. Mr. Pignati asked John and Lorraine to do what while he was in the hospital?
4. How did John and Lorraine’s relationship change after the night they passed?

Chapters 13-15

1. Why didn’t John want Dennis to tell Norton about the party?
2. How does John describe Janice Dickerson?
3. What happened when Norton arrived?
4. Why do you think John passed out when the Pigman came home?
5. Put yourself in the Pigman’s shoes, walking into his house and seeing the party. Write how you feel at that moment.
6. What was Mrs. Jensen’s reaction when the police brought Lorraine home? What would have been a more appropriate reaction? How do you think it made Lorraine feel?

Name _____

Match the character on the right with the description on the left. Some will be used more than once.

- | | | |
|-------|---|----------------------|
| _____ | 1. put a lock on the phone | A. John |
| _____ | 2. "The Marshmallow Kid" | B. Lorraine |
| _____ | 3. "The Bathroom Bomber" | C. Norton |
| _____ | 4. smokes and drinks too much | D. Mr. Pignati |
| _____ | 5. enjoys telling jokes and talking | E. Dennis |
| _____ | 6. wants to be a writer | F. John's mother |
| _____ | 7. a disinfectant fanatic | G. Lorraine's mother |
| _____ | 8. nicknamed "Bore" | H. Miss Reilly |
| _____ | 9. held record for longest phone marathon | I. John's father |
| _____ | 10. tells Lorraine she isn't beautiful | |
| _____ | 11. quit drinking due to "cirrhosis" of the liver | |
| _____ | 12. makes cricket-like sounds when walking | |
| _____ | 13. organized a supercolossal fruit roll | |
| _____ | 14. "distorts" the truth often | |
| _____ | 15. likes to use big words | |

