

Teacher Guide

Grades 5–6

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry

Mildred D. Taylor

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ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY

by
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Teacher Guide

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Note

The Bantam Starfire paperback edition of the book was used to prepare this guide. The page references may differ in other 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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Eleven Activity Sheets	4
These are included throughout the unit	
Twelve Chapters	7
Chapters contain: Vocabulary Words, Discussion Questions and Activities, Supplementary Activities, Predictions	
Culminating Activities	21

Skills and Strategies

Thinking

Brainstorming, research,
synthesizing ideas

Writing

Titling, concept expansion,
newspaper article

Vocabulary

Word maps

Comprehension

Predicting, story mapping

Listening/Speaking

Role play

Literary Elements

Character development,
simile/metaphor, idioms,
foreshadowing

Chapter 12
Pages 196-210

Vocabulary

traipsing
transfixed
oblivious

menacingly
adamant

1. Although Papa's leg was injured, what does he do as soon as he hears about Stacey and T.J. in the woods?
2. What advice does Mama give Papa as he prepares to leave the home? p. 197 "Not with the shotgun!" "Get Harlan Granger to sign it."
3. What does Mama say in the case of the fire? p. 199 lightning What is the real cause? Papa set the fire to save T.J. and Stacey.
4. What does Papa sacrifice in the fire? His leg on a cro

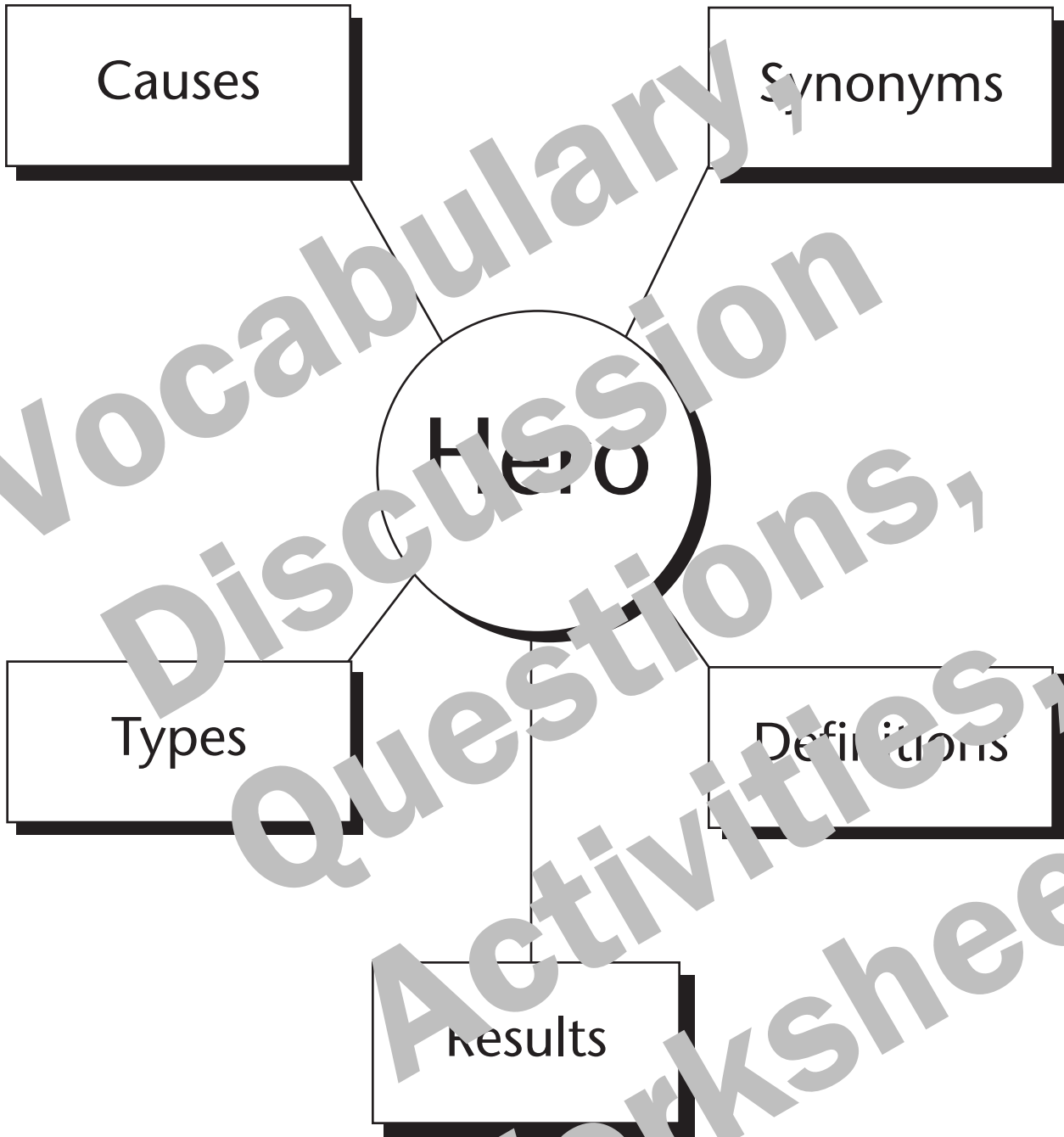
Writing Activities

1. Write a different ending to this story. This had an extremely sad ending. Brainstorm other possible endings.
2. Write chapter titles.

Culminating Activities

1. Reports on research on: Ku Klux Klan, lynchings, and feathering, and tenant farmers.
2. Does this story have a hero? (Activity Sheet 6)
Could this story have more than one hero? Be able to justify your answer with specific page references.
3. Explain the significance of the title. What other titles could you think of for this novel?
4. What was the author's message in this book? What is the most important thing to remember about this story?
5. Summarize the story using the story map. Which type of story map works most? How would using a story map help you as an author? (Activity Sheet 7)

Activity Sheet 6



Activity Sheet 9

Simile

Sometimes an author uses a **simile** to help the reader form an image.

A **simile** is a comparison between two things.

A simile uses the words **like** or **as**.

Directions

Read the simile in the left column. List the **two** things that are being compared in the right column.

Simile	Objects being compared
1. Before us the narrow, sun-splotted road wound like a lazy serpent dividing the high forest bank of quiet, red hills.	1. road, serpent
...a bus bore down on rain-swept clouds of red dirt like a huge yellow dragon breathing fire.	2.
3. I shivered, shielding my eyes from the sun when slipped like lightning down the pole.	3.
4. When Papa saw us, he began running swiftly, easily like the wind.	4.
5. ...the tat-tat of rain against the tin roof changed to a deafening roar that sounded as if thousands of giant rocks were being piled up on the earth.	5.
6. The bus' left front wheel was in our ditch, its right wheel was in the gully, like a lopsided billy goat on its knees.	6.
7. A caravan of headlights appeared suddenly in the east, coming west along the rain-soaked road like cat eyes in the night.	7.