# **Taking Sides**

**Gary Soto** 





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# TAKING SIDES

by Gary Soto

# **Student Packet**

Written by Elizabeth M. Klar and Cheryl Klar-Trim

Edited by Katherine E. Martinez

Contains masters for:

- 2 Prereading Activities
- 1 Study Guide (4 pages)
- 6 Vocabulary Activities
- 3 Critical Thinking Activities
- 3 Literary Analysis Activities
- 2 Writing Activities
- 2 Art Activities
- 2 Comprehension Quizzes
- 1 Novel Test (5 pages)
- 1 Essay Evaluation Form

PLUS Detailed Answer Key

#### Note

The Harcourt Brace paperback edition of the book, published by Harcourt Brace & Company ©1991, 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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### Chapters Eleven, Twelve, and Thirteen

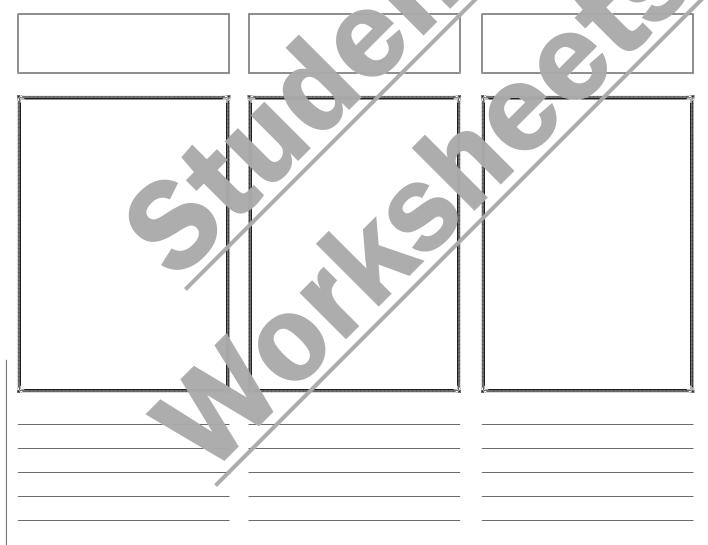
Name

- 1. Who helps Mrs. Mendoza and Lincoln fix the door damaged by the intruder?
- 2. What does Tony send Lincoln in the mail?
- 3. Why does Lincoln scream when his mother touches his hurt knee?
- 4. What does Lincoln observe Coach Yesutis doing in the cafeteria?
- 5. What does Monica give Lincoln before she heads off to algebra class?
- 6. Who tells Lincoln that the coach was wrong to tress incoln badly?
- 7. What does Lincoln do to tune out the coach agive
- 8. What does Lincoln do to kill time before the lame
- 9. Does Lincoln's mother understand when the to tell her about how irly t' coach treats him?
- 10. Who does Lincoln argue with both
- 11. Who does Lincoln refer to as *men*.
- 12. Is Lincoln glad that the Franklin are is beating his school
- 13. During what quarter des to soach finally let Lincoln game?
- 14. Who wins the ball coal and a
- 15. Who step when a coach turns and grabs income
- 16. Why dc M ndoza want Lincoln to hu
- 17. Does Lincom feel appy the morning aft the control of the contr
- 18. Who picked up the tab for the pizzas with his friends?
- 19. Why does Lincoln owe Tony fou llars:
- 20. What does Tony plan to give incomer Christmas?

# **Compare and Contrast**

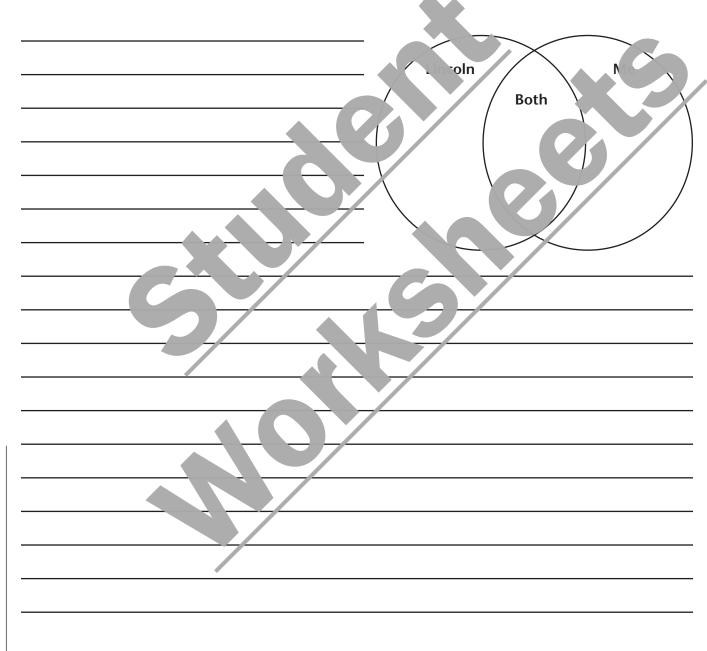
To identify with the characters in a story you need to understand how they look, feel, act, and what they value.

**Directions:** In the space provided, draw a picture of three characters from *Taking Sides*. Write the character's name in the box above his or her picture. Below each person's picture, complete his or her description by using adjectives. After a complete your descriptions compare them to a classmate's. How are your description and pillar to/different from your classmate's? Do you agree or disagree with your classmate's ptions? Post the part is on a bulletin board for the rest of the class to view.



## **Exploring Characteristics**

**Directions:** Imagine Lincoln is one of your best friends. What do you like about him? What makes him a good friend? What does he do to make you like him? How does Lincoln talk to you, treat you, and treat your other friends? Write down the traits and behaviors that describe Lincoln. Now answer the same questions about yourself. How are you the same/different from Lincoln? Do you think Lincoln would like to have you as a friend?



# Create a Map

**Directions:** Based on information from the book, create a map of the places described in *Taking Sides*. Some information is provided in the story, but you will need to use your imagination for the location of other sites. Include a key and a scale for measuring distance. Your map should include the following places: Columbus Junior High, Franklin Junior High, Cornell Elementary, James' house, Lincoln's house in Sycamore, the thrift store, and Tony's house. In addition to the places above, use your imagination include at least three of the following: bus route, police station, churches, public to ry, fire station, and other retail stores.

