

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

“The Scarlet Ibis” by James Hurst

**Imagery** – Words and phrases that appeal to our 5 senses – sight, sound, smell, touch, taste. Imagery helps the reader feel that he/she is experiencing what he/she is reading about.

Notice all of the **DEATH IMAGERY** in the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph. Write down any words or phrases found in that paragraph that make you think of death.

In one word (an adjective please) describe what kind of child Doodle is. \_\_\_\_\_

Prove it! Use details/examples from the story to do this. Convince me.

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Based on the definitions below, was the proof you mentioned an example of direct or indirect characterization? (circle one)

Direct

Indirect

**Direct Characterization** – The author directly **tells** you what a character is like.  
Ex: “Harold was cheap.”  
**Indirect Characterization** – An author **shows** you what a character is like through what the character does, how (s)he acts, what (s)he says, what others say about him/her.

Who is the **narrator** of the story? \_\_\_\_\_

**1<sup>st</sup> person point of view** – a character in the story is telling the story.

**3<sup>rd</sup> person point of view** – someone outside the story is telling the story.

Based on the definitions above, this story is written in which **point of view**?

- 1<sup>st</sup> person point of view
- 3<sup>rd</sup> person point of view

On page 488, the author uses a **simile**: “Keeping a nice secret is very hard to do, like holding your breath.

What two things are being compared? \_\_\_\_\_ and

\_\_\_\_\_.

Why compare keeping a secret to holding your breath? Give two reasons.

- 1.
- 2.

When the boys finally reveal their secret (p. 489), the narrator starts to cry. Why?

What does this reveal about the **narrator**?

Is this an example of direct or indirect characterization?

- Direct characterization
- Indirect characterization

(p. 489) What does infallibility mean? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is feeling infallible? \_\_\_\_\_

Is anyone really infallible? What is the problem with feeling infallible?

What is **foreshadowing**? \_\_\_\_\_

When you begin reading the last paragraph on page 489, look for **death imagery** that **foreshadows** a grim ending to this story. Look for imagery until Doodle buries the bird.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

Why has the bird's death affected Doodle so greatly?

Why is he determined to give him a proper burial?

**Setting** – The time, place and milieu of the action. What is the setting of this story?

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Milieu \_\_\_\_\_ (events and cultural climate of that time/place)

**Symbol** – an object used to represent something else (even an idea or a feeling).

Some symbols are universal:

What object **symbolizes** peace?

What object **symbolizes** love?

The skull and cross bones is a **symbol** for what? \_\_\_\_\_

**The ibis symbolizes Doodle.** Is the ibis a universal symbol or a symbol that only exists within this story?

- Universal symbol
- Symbol that exists only within this story

For each point about the ibis, show how it also applies to Doodle.

<u>Ibis</u>	<u>Doodle</u>
• wings were uncoordinated	• _____
• exotic/different bird	• _____
• scarlet feathers	• _____
• travels so far, only to die in the yard	• _____
• dies under a bleeding tree	• _____
• "long graceful neck"	• _____
• thin legs	• _____

**Theme** – a moral or message from the author, what the author is telling or teaching us.

Based on the definition above, what is the **theme/message/moral** of this story? Hint: What is the author saying about "pride"?

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