

4th Grade STA Reading: May 18-22, 2020

Hello, 4th graders! You are on the final stretch of your school work! Keep up the great work!

In literature, characters who change and grow (or diminish) throughout the story are called *dynamic characters*. They learn from their experiences and take on a different perspective of life. Alternatively, those who do not change are called *static characters*.

Now that we have finished reading *The Shakespeare Stealer*, you will show me all that you have observed about the character development of Widge. Is he a static or dynamic character?

Your final project will be a friendly letter written by Widge to Dr. Bright. In the letter you will show what you have observed about Widge and how his understanding of the key concepts of honest, trust, loyalty, friendship, family and home have changed. The assignment is located on the next page, followed by the friendly letter format.

Please write a rough draft first. Have a parent check it for complete sentences, as well as correct spelling, punctuation, and friendly letter format. Then, write a final draft. It may be in cursive, print or typed. I will offer extra credit for letters written in cursive. I look forward to hearing all about Widge!!

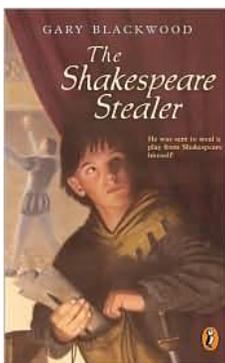
Homework:

- *The Shakespeare Stealer* Final Project (see assignment sheet below)
- Send your final draft to mmyler@gtacs.org on or before Tuesday, May 26
- Zoom meeting Tuesday at 3pm

Rough draft

Parent check for complete sentences, as well as correct spelling, punctuation and friendly letter format

Final draft in cursive, print or typed



The Shakespeare Stealer

By Gary Blackwood

(p. 215-216) “For every *ken* and *wis* and *aye* I had dropped from my vocabulary, I had picked up a dozen new and useful terms. Some were fencing terms, some were peculiar to London, some were jargon of the players’ trade. But the ones that had made the most difference to me were the words I had heard before and never fully understood their import— words such as *honesty* and *trust*, *loyalty* and *friendship*.
And *family*.
And *home*.”

Widge has learned much throughout the novel, *The Shakespeare Stealer*. Write a friendly letter from Widge to Dr. Bright explaining all that Widge has learned. Use proper friendly-letter form.

*In the **first paragraph**, allow Widge to summarize what happened while in the employment of Simon Bass. (What was his mission? What did he think about it?)

*In the **second paragraph**, allow Widge to explain how he has changed since his employment with Dr. Bright. Choose 2 of the highlighted words from above and explain Widge’s current understanding of the words compared to his prior understanding of the words. It would be good to state how the change occurred.

*In the **third paragraph**, allow Widge to explain what he intends to do from here on out. You may make up this portion of the letter, but use clues from the story to create a realistic assumption of what Widge will do next.

The Shakespeare Stealer: Friendly Letter Rubric

+2 Greeting

+10 **Paragraph 1**: Summarize what happened while in the employment of Simon Bass.

+10 **Paragraph 2**: Explain Widge’s development in his understanding of 2 of the highlighted words.

+10 **Paragraph 3**: Explain what Widge intends to do now.

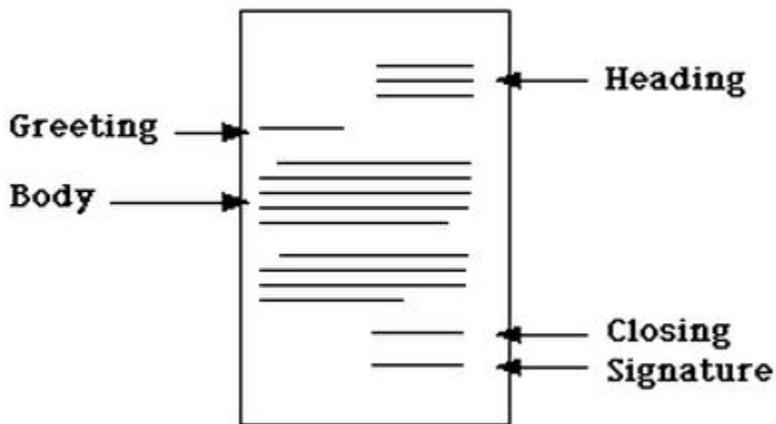
+2 Closing

+2 Proper friendly-letter form

+4 Correct spelling, capitalization, punctuation, indentation

40 points possible

Friendly Letter Example



The **heading** includes your address and the date. (You may create an address for Widge.)

The **greeting** starts with "Dear _____,"

The **body** is what you want to say to the reader. Indent the beginning of each paragraph, but do not add a space between paragraphs.

The **closing** can be either "Sincerely" or "Your friend."

The **signature** is where you sign your name. (Your letter will be signed by Widge.)

