

Ransom of Red Chief Assessment

8th Grade ESL Language Arts, February 2010

Name: _____

Circle the best answer to the questions below.

1. The name of the town where the story takes place is _____.
A) Alabama B) Georgia C) Summit D) Dodge
2. Red Chief's real name is _____.
A) Bill B) Johnny C) Ebenezer D) Fred

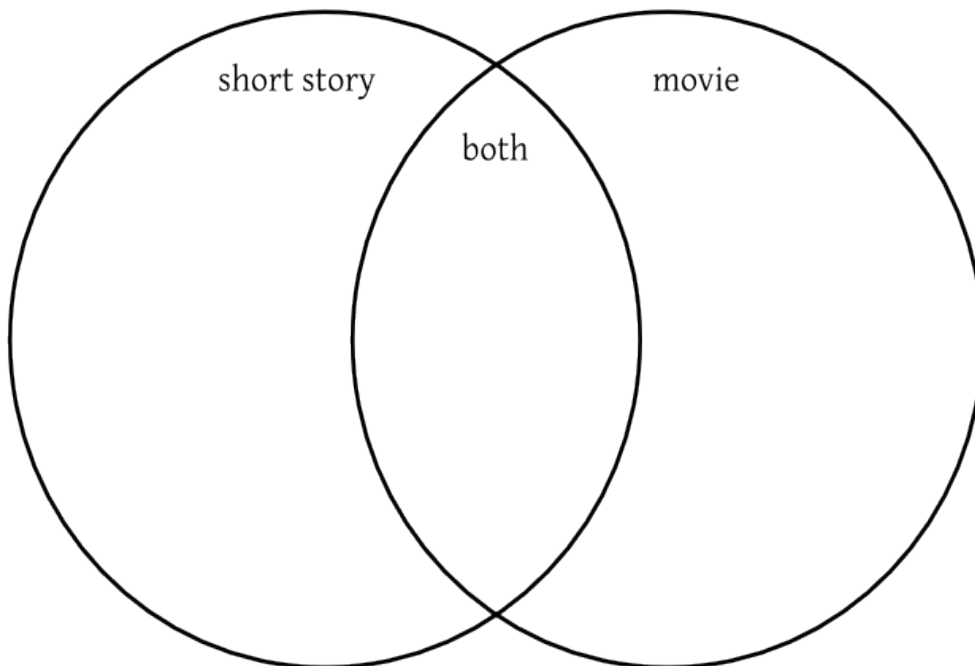
Answer the question in the space provided.

3. What was Red Chief doing in the beginning of the story that foreshadowed (gave a hint about) the trouble and pain he would cause Bill and Sam?

4. In their ransom note to Red Chief's father, why did Sam and Bill ask for less money than they originally planned?

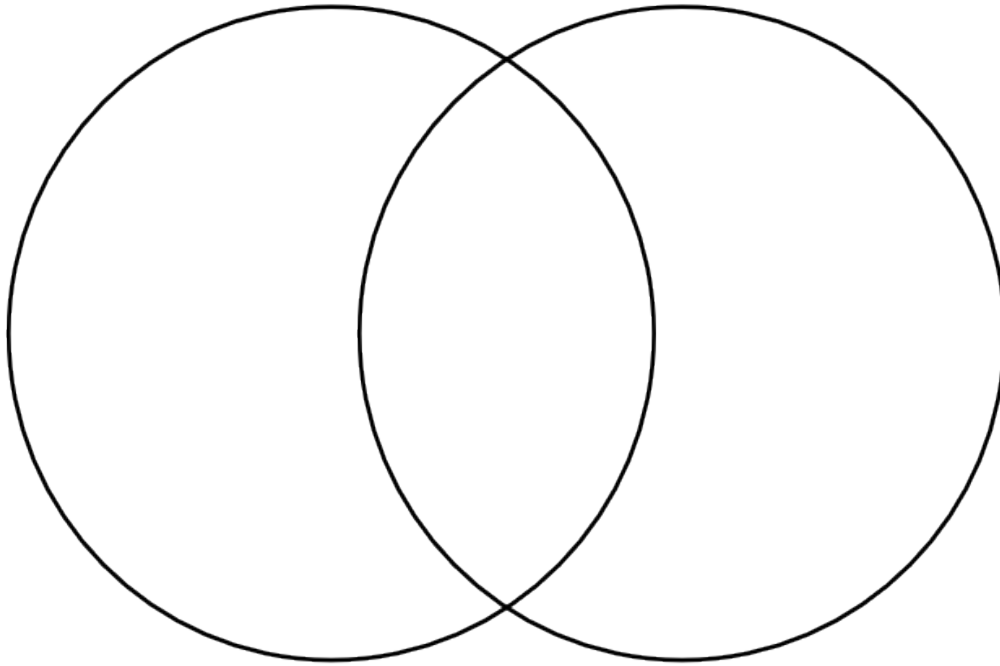
Compare and contrast the movie and the short story versions of The Ransom of Red Chief in the Venn diagram below.

5. Include 3 points *each* for the movie and the short story and two points that were the same in both.



Compare and contrast 2 things of your choosing. You can choose anything that you are familiar with and that your teachers are also probably familiar with. Of course you must choose topics that are appropriate for a middle school classroom.

6. Include 3 points *each* for your choices and 2 points that were the same in both.



Read the summaries below and circle the letter (A, B, or C) of the summary that is best.

Thinking about the requirements of a good summary that we discussed in class will help you choose.

7. Summarizing

A) The Ransom of Red Chief is about a kidnapping. Two men kidnap the boy of the town's richest man. They hold him to a cave while they communicate with the father about the ransom. In the end, the kidnapers pay the father to take the boy back.

B) Bill and Sam need some money and so decide to kidnap a boy for some quick cash. They rent a buggy and drive into town to grab the boy. He is throwing rocks at a kitten and hits Bill with a rock. Bill and Sam take the boy to a cave and send a letter to his father. The father refuses to pay and makes a counter proposal. He asks the kidnapers to pay him \$250 and he will take the boy back. Bill and Sam agree and then run away from the boy as fast as they can.

C) Bill and Sam kidnap a young boy, thinking they will make some easy money from the boy's rich father. The boy, who calls himself Red Chief, thinks staying in a cave with the kidnapper is great fun and doesn't want to go home. Red Chief's idea of fun involves playing cowboys and Indians a little too realistically. The neighbors are happy that "Red Chief" is gone and in the end Bill and Sam gladly pay \$250 to the father to take the boy back.

Answer the questions in the space provided. Write at least four sentences about the movie and give three reasons why you liked or did not like it. (Continue on the back of this page.)

8. You are talking with a friend about the movie Ransom of Red Chief. Your friend has not seen the movie, so briefly tell your friend about it. Include some information about the story (summarizing) and also why you liked or did not like the movie.