

Name: _____

Period: _____

THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

by Robert Frost

Directions: As you read "The Road Not Taken" by Robert Frost, practice using the TPCASTT strategy to develop an in-depth understanding of the poem and its central message. The directions for each step are included on the next page.

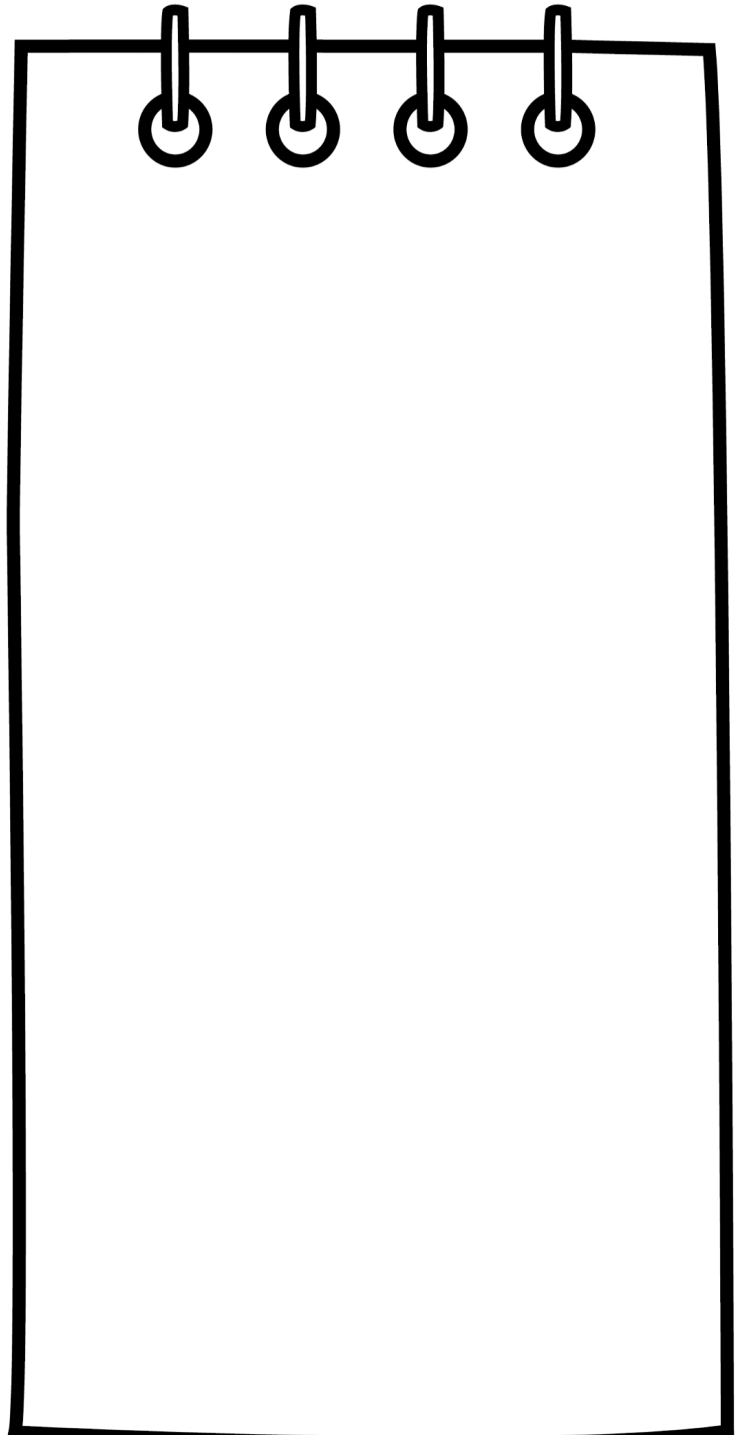
THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.



THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

by Robert Frost

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T	TITLE What do you think the poem will be about based on the title? What might the title mean?	
P	PARAPHRASE Read the poem one time. Then, paraphrase each line or stanza or explain what's happening in your own words .	
C	CONNOTATIONS Reread the poem and think about the emotions implied by certain words and phrases. Notice devices the poet uses.	
A	ATTITUDE Examine the speaker. Who is it? What is the topic? What is their tone throughout the poem? How do they feel?	
S	SHIFTS Look for any shifts or changes within the poem. Look at the structure, the sounds, the subjects, and the tone.	
T	TITLE Revisit the title. How does it relate to, enhance, or change your understanding of the poem? What does it reveal?	
T	THEME Consider the theme or the central message of the poem. What is the poet trying to say? Use a complete sentence.	

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THE DUEL *by Eugene Field*

Directions: As you read "The Duel" by Eugene Field, practice using the TPCASTT strategy to develop an in-depth understanding of the poem and its central message. The directions for each step are included on the next page.

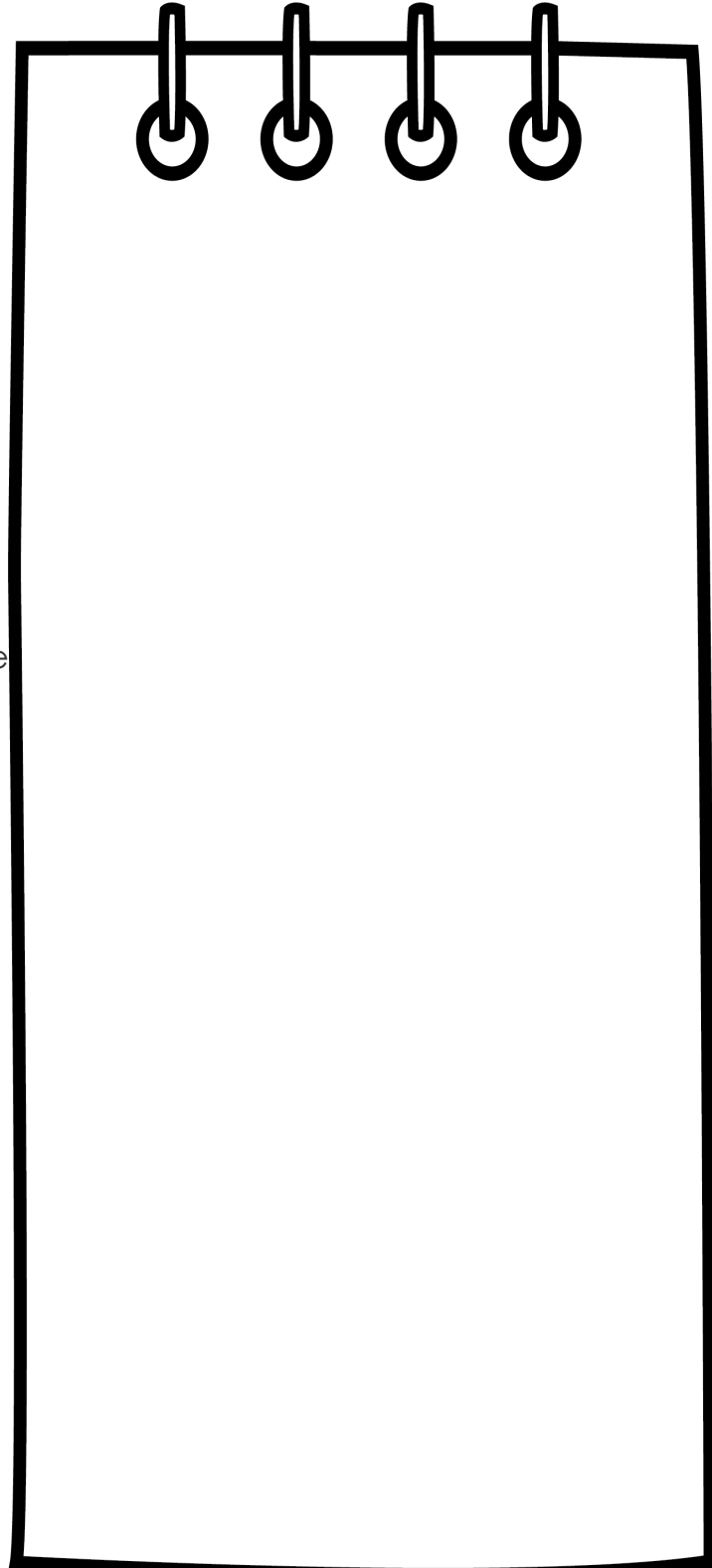
THE DUEL

The gingham dog and the calico cat
Side by side on the table sat;
'T was half-past twelve, and (what do you think!)
Nor one nor t' other had slept a wink!
The old Dutch clock and the Chinese plate
Appeared to know as sure as fate
There was going to be a terrible spat.
*(I wasn't there; I simply state
What was told to me by the Chinese plate!)*

The gingham dog went "Bow-wow-wow!"
And the calico cat replied "Mee-ow!"
The air was littered, an hour or so,
With bits of gingham and calico,
While the old Dutch clock in the chimney-place
Up with its hands before its face,
For it always dreaded a family row!
*(Now mind: I'm only telling you
What the old Dutch clock declares is true!)*

The Chinese plate looked very blue,
And wailed, "Oh, dear! what shall we do!"
But the gingham dog and the calico cat
Wallowed this way and tumbled that,
Employing every tooth and claw
In the awfulest way you ever saw—
And, oh! how the gingham and calico flew!
*(Don't fancy I exaggerate—
I got my news from the Chinese plate!)*

Next morning, where the two had sat
They found no trace of dog or cat;
And some folks think unto this day
That burglars stole that pair away!
But the truth about the cat and pup
Is this: they ate each other up!
Now what do you really think of that!
*(The old Dutch clock it told me so,
And that is how I came to know.)*



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