

Janie's New Life

LEARNING STRATEGIES:

Double-Entry Journal, Questioning the Text, Close Reading, Graphic Organizer, Think-Pair-Share, Discussion Groups, Drafting

Learning Targets

- Define the characteristics of a folk tale, and identify the effect of these elements.
- Generate an analysis that agrees or disagrees with critical commentary.

Before Reading

1. Review levels of questions. As you practice questioning the text, formulate questions on three levels: literal, interpretive, and universal.

Chapter 5

2. Read Chapter 5, and then write three questions for each of the following levels of questions. Use the examples below as models.

Literal	Interpretive	Universal
What does Joe Starks say when the audience requests that Janie speak?	Based on Joe Starks's statements about women, what can the reader infer about Joe's attitude toward women?	How does society define male and female roles?

My Notes

Literary Terms

A **folk tale** is a story without a known author that has been preserved through oral retelling and is part of the oral tradition in literature.

3. Share your questions with your classmates. With your class, choose three questions that best identify the central issues of Chapter 5. Write those questions below.

Chapter 6

A folk tale has many or all of the characteristics listed below.

- They are generally handed down to a group orally.
- They are characteristic of the time and place in which they are told.
- The stories speak to universal and timeless themes.
- The stories try to explain human life and how people deal with life or the origin of something.
- They are often about common people.
- The characters struggle with natural events.
- The stories validate elements of a culture.
- Stories may entertain with exaggerated characters, conflicts, or dialogue.

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Elements of the Oral Tradition and the Folk Tale	Example from the Chapter	Effects
Folk tales, myths, fairy tales		
Reflection of time and place in which they are told, especially the use of dialect		
Exaggerated characters or situations for the sake of humor or glorification of deeds		
Humans coping with the world in which they live		
Common people as characters		
Characters struggle with nature		
Validates aspects of a culture		

