
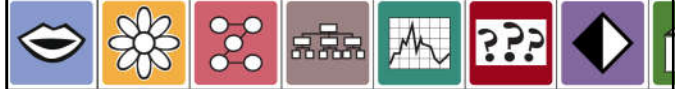


introduction to the
Depth & Complexity
framework


with Lisa Van Gemert | giftedguru.com & Ian Byrd | byrdseed.com



1



first part:
 Intro to Depth & Complexity



2

DEPTH & COMPLEXITY

a **FRAMEWORK** for
 academic exploration
 to help raise thinking
 skills

3

Why it's so great

- differentiation made easy
- standards alignment
- all ages & content areas
- robust thinking toolbox

4

Components of Depth & Complexity Framework

- Thinking Skills
- Icons of DC
- Universal Concepts
- Content Imperatives
- Disciplinarianism

5

DEPTH & COMPLEXITY

the icons are a path to
 understanding the
 thinking lens we're using
 for that experience | it's
 the signal | ELL

6

**We are looking
through a lens
that pivots.**

7

DEPTH & COMPLEXITY

**The eleven elements
are not in any
particular order.**

8

second part:
The Pick Four

9



10

The perfectly pleasing mystery of a hidden treasure

Should great art belong to private owners or public institutions? Is it fair for such beauty to be owned by one person? [Cite a character for each position and, using examples from the text, defend their point of view.]

11

99 strange collective animal names

Whether it's a shrewdness of apes or a zeal of zebras, lots of animals have bizarre names when they cluster into crowds.

**Ist, we'll have a little fun with
crazy names for groups of
animals.**

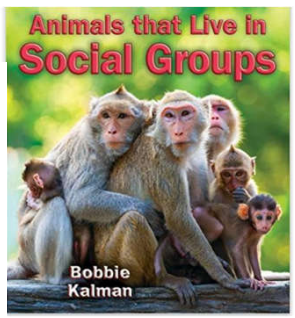


12



I'll flip the classroom & have them watch this video at home.

13



Next, they'll come back to class & we'll read this book, looking for connections between it and the video.

14

Why Live in Groups

There are several major disadvantages to living in groups:

1. Greater competition for food, mates, sleeping sites.
2. Increase parasite and disease load.

There is an incidental reason why some animals live in groups. E.g., birds don't nest on cliffs because they are attracted by a scarce resource: cliff.

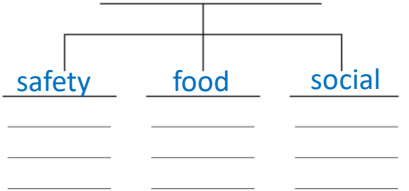
How do individuals benefit by living in groups?

1. **Cooperative food collection.** Wolves hunt together. By doing so each can more easily track and take down large game. Although the individual has to share meat, each still benefits from group hunting. Group hunting is less important in primates. Chimps hunt some but meat is not a major part of their diets. Group hunting is important in many human societies, however.
2. **Sleeping together to conserve warmth.** This explains why individuals form groups at night but it does not explain why groups are maintained during the day.
3. **Shared information.** By forming groups, individuals can share information. For example, frugivores let each other know where fruit trees are (reciprocity). For
4. **Protection from predators.** There are three reasons why groups help to avoid predation.

My advanced learners will read a scholarly article instead.

15

Next, the on level students will create a tree map classifying animals by the reasons they group.



16



My advanced students will create a persuasive piece (brochure or commercial) encouraging the polar bear to begin living in groups.

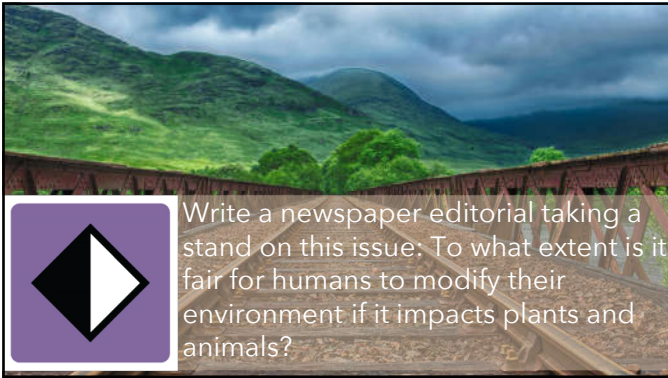
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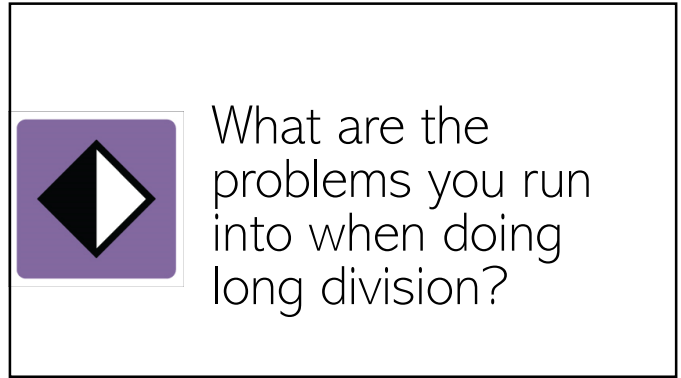
Students will debate:

Resolved: It is fair for packs of animals to hunt in order to kill a solitary animal.

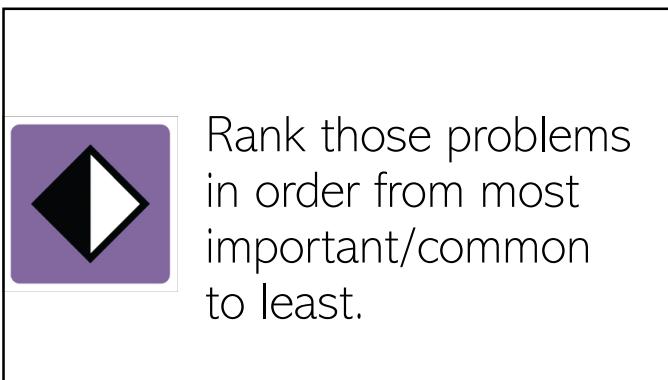
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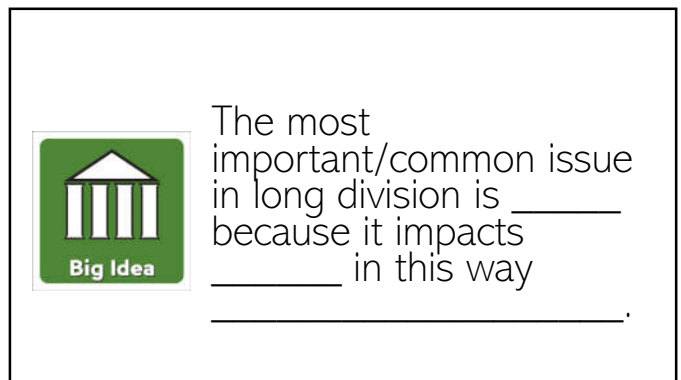
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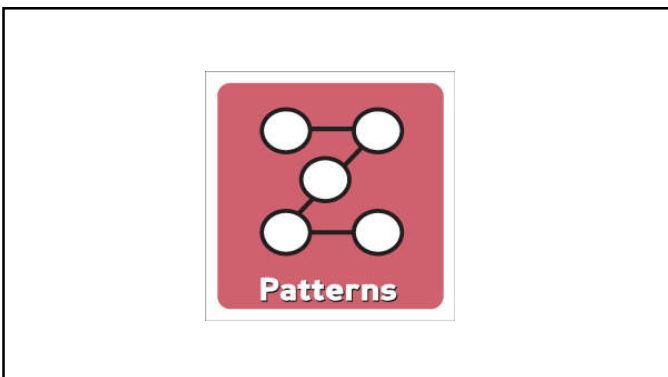
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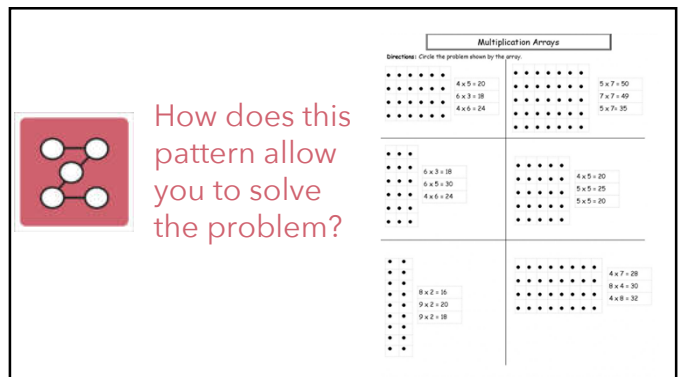
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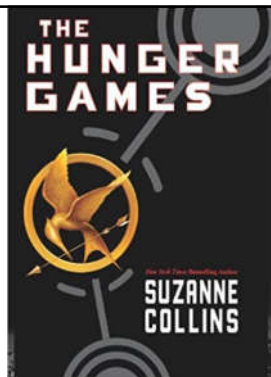
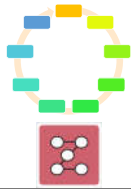


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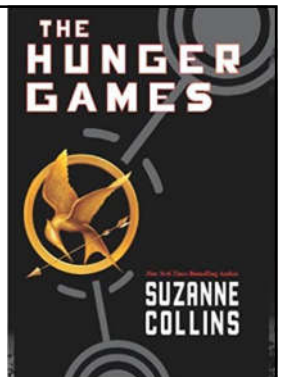
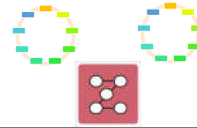
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How does/does not Katniss follow the pattern of the heroic archetype?



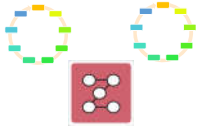
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Differentiate It:
Compare and contrast the heroic journey of Katniss with that of Theseus.

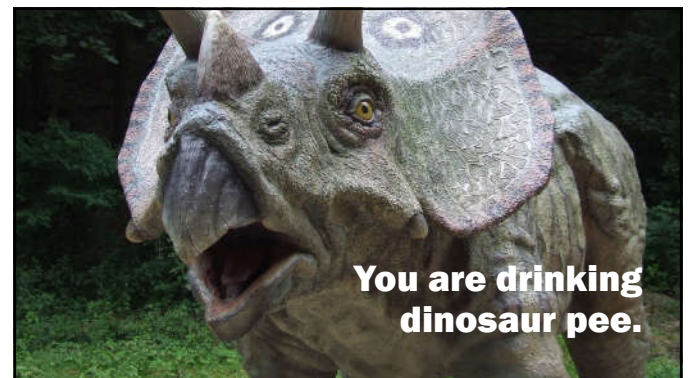


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Where and how does Katniss break the heroic archetypal pattern? Why does Collins not follow the pattern exactly? Does this make Katniss more or less heroic?



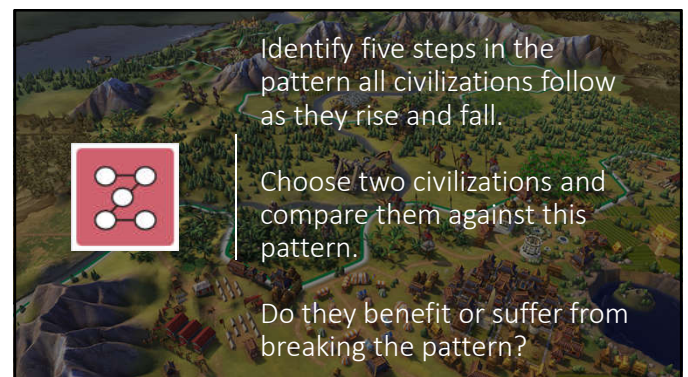
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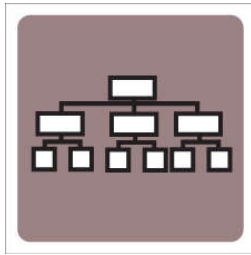
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29



30



31



RULES INCLUDE:

standards

directions

methods

organization

usual behavior

32

In *The Scarlet Letter*, are the rules society imposes on women fair?

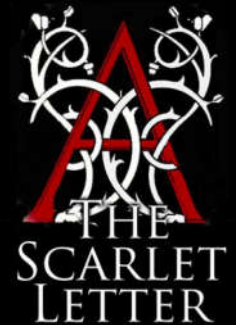
How does it punish the breaking of those rules?

Who else is punished besides the rulebreaker and how?



33

Differentiate it:
Compare the rules society imposes on women in *The Scarlet Letter* to contemporary mores. Argue either that a) the rules have changed or b) the punishments are more subtle.

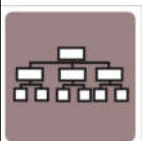


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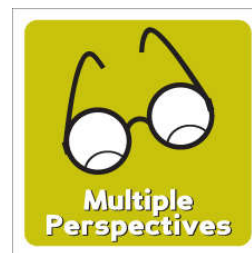
What rule of Roman numerals are these numbers breaking? Fix them.

19 = XVIV

100 = LL



35



36

Which is more
affected by
gravity, the
moon or
Earth?



37

Debate: Because
of gravity, planets
with large masses
are bossier than
planets with a
smaller mass.

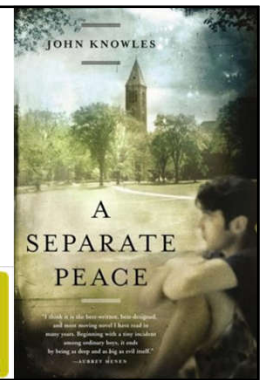


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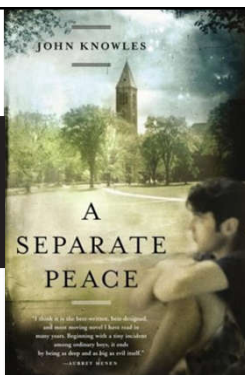
39

Analyze two
conflicts in the
story from the
perspectives of
Finny and
Gene.



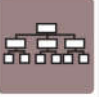
40

Create a
cause and
effect chain
that traces
the origins of
those
conflicts.



41

Which one does not belong?

 31	28
23	29

42

Which one does not belong?

NATO

Treaty of Versailles

Truman Doctrine

Marshall Plan

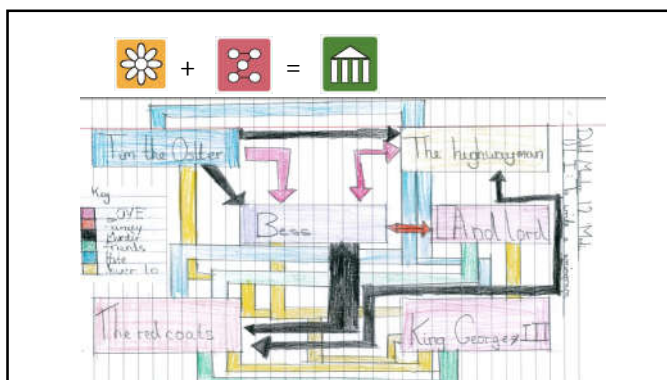
What are the similarities between this and pre-WWI US policy?

43

Using 🌸 details from the story, show the 📊 patterns of the relationships between the characters.

🏛️ Analyze those patterns to determine what they say about the difference between the bonds of friendship and family.

44



45

third part:

Let's go even deeper

46

Google

depth and complexity

Google Search I'm Feeling Lucky

47

A GATE-way to Depth & Complexity

Depth & Complexity

special

Earth

Introducing Depth and Complexity

Literary Analysis

48

Depth & Complexity Icon Chart			
Depth	Icon	Definition	Example
Language of the Discipline		What vocabulary terms are specific to the content or discipline?	Terms, jargon, icons, acronyms, special phrases, terms, slang, abbreviations
Details		What are the defining features or characteristics? Find examples and evidence to support opinions and ideas.	Parts, factors, attributes, variables, distinguishing traits
Patterns		What elements reoccur? What is the sequence or order of events? Make predictions based on past events.	Predictability, Repetition
Unanswered Questions	???	What information is unclear, missing, or unavailable? What evidence do you need? What has not yet been proven?	Missing Parts, Incomplete Ideas, Discrepancies, Unresolved Issues, Ambiguity
Rules		What structure underlies this content? What are the underlying principles or organizing principles in it?	Structure
Trends		What trends or patterns are visible? How do they change over time?	
Ethics		What moral or ethical issues are raised in this content? What controversies exist?	
Big Ideas		What are the central concepts or big ideas? What are the key takeaways?	
Across the Disciplines		How are concepts related to other disciplines? What are the connections?	
Changes over Time		How do concepts change over time? What are the historical contexts?	
Different Perspectives		How do different perspectives shape our understanding of the world?	

Based upon the work of Sandra Kaplan

49

	What vocabulary terms are specific to the content or discipline?	Tools Jargon Icons Acronyms Special phrases Terms Slang Abbreviations
	What are the defining features or characteristics? Find examples and evidence to support opinions and ideas.	Parts Factors Attributes Variables Distinguishing Traits
	What elements reoccur? What is the sequence or order of events? Make predictions based on past events.	Predictability Repetition
	What information is unclear, missing, or unavailable? What evidence do you need? What has not yet been proven?	Missing Parts Incomplete Ideas Discrepancies Unresolved Issues Ambiguity
What structure underlies this		Structure

50

What are the rules of multiplication?

What are the patterns in Shakespeare's sonnets?

What is the big idea of the War of 1812?

What are the essential details of a forest?

51

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

What is the main theme of this story?

Do you notice any patterns in this book?

What are the central concepts or big ideas?

What special writing techniques does the author use? Give examples.

What moral or ethical issues are raised in this book? What controversies exist?

How would this book or story be different if it were written from a different point of view?

What changes over time? What doesn't?

52

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

Name: _____

What is the main theme of this story?

Do you notice any patterns in this book?

What are the central concepts or big ideas?

What special writing techniques does the author use? Give examples.

53

What moral or ethical issues are raised in this book? What controversies exist?

How would this book or story be different if it were written from a different point of view?

What changes over time? What doesn't?



What is the main theme of this story?

Do you notice any patterns in this book?



What are the central concepts or big ideas?

What special writing techniques does the author use? Give examples.



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 <p>What changes over time? What doesn't change? What impact might this story have on the future?</p>	 <p>How would this book or story be different if it were written from a different point of view?</p>
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






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Name: _____ Date: _____ Objective: _____ 		
		






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Name: _____ Date: _____		
Objective: _____ 		
		







57

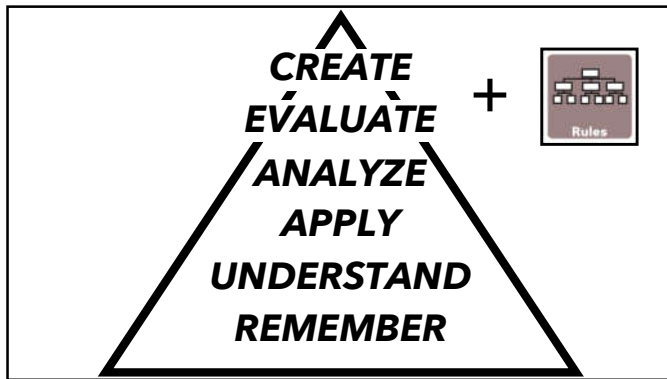
58

 What are the different perspectives on Veterans Day?	 Explain the origin and Big Idea of Veterans Day	 Discuss contribution as it relates to Veterans Day
Veterans Day		
 What are the important details about Veterans Day?	 What are some important words/phrases associated with Veterans Day?	

59

 	 The Preamble We the People of the United States, In Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.	 
		

60



61

List the rules of the US Constitution.

Contrast the rules of the US Constitution with those of Japan's Constitution.

Apply the rules of Japan's constitution to the US. What would it be like?

Judge which rules in the US Constitution are least fair.

Create the rules for a new constitution.

62

What conflicts do you see in the story?

63

What conflicts do you see in the story?

What are the origins of conflict in the story?

64

What conflicts do you see in the story?

What are the origins of conflict in the story?

Using at least seven details from the story, create a graphic organizer comparing the origins of the conflict in the story with those from ____ story.

65

What conflicts do you see in the story?

What are the origins of conflict in the story?

Using at least seven details from the story, create a graphic organizer comparing the origins of the conflict in the story.

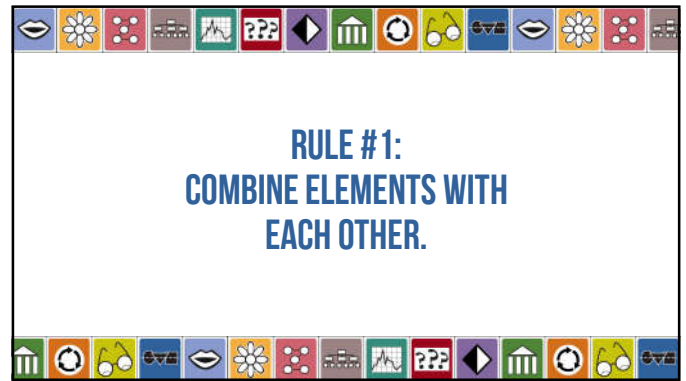
△: Create a meme that reveals the Big Idea revealed by the origins of conflict in the story.



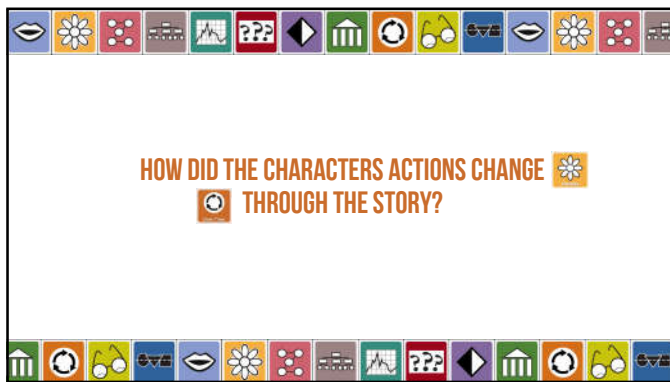
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67



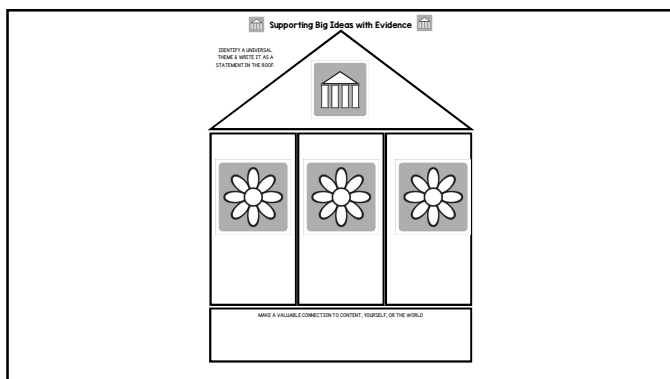
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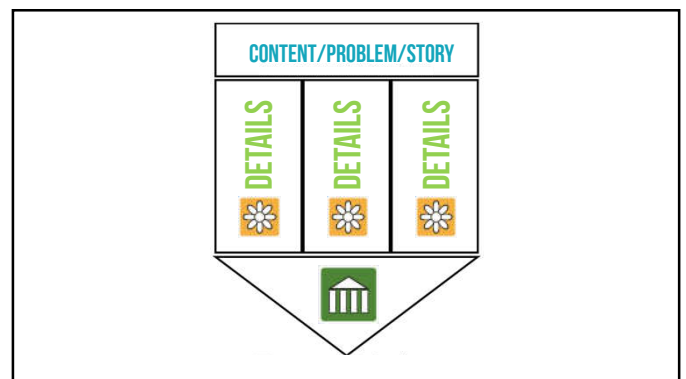
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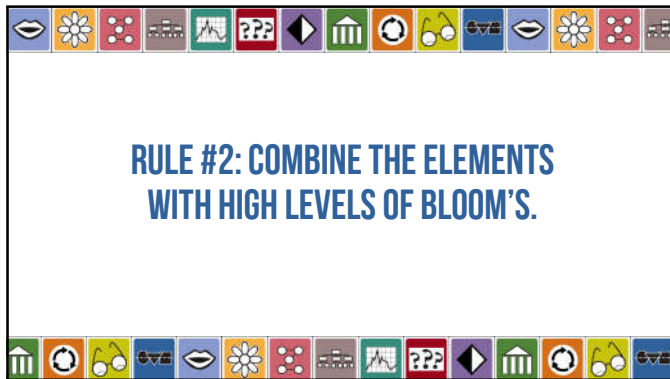
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71



72



**RULE #2: COMBINE THE ELEMENTS
WITH HIGH LEVELS OF BLOOM'S.**

73



**EVALUATE THE  FAIRNESS OF CHARGING
\$5.50 FOR A POUND OF BUTTER IF 25% OF A
POUND COSTS \$1.28.**

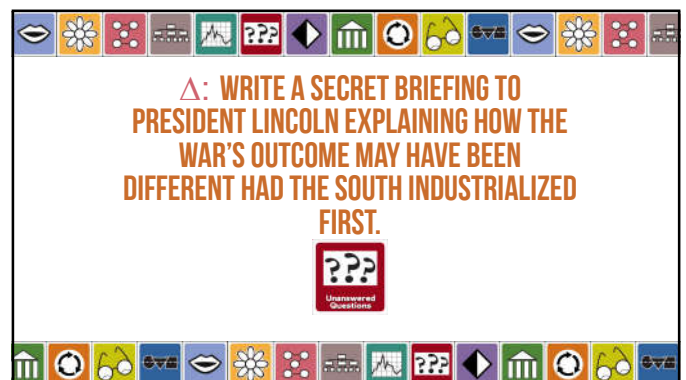
WHAT IF YOU WERE THE ONLY DAIRY FARMER STILL ALIVE AFTER
THE ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE?

74




**CREATE A GRAPHIC ORGANIZER
DEMONSTRATING HOW TRENDS 
TOWARDS INDUSTRIALIZATION IMPACTED
THE CIVIL WAR .**

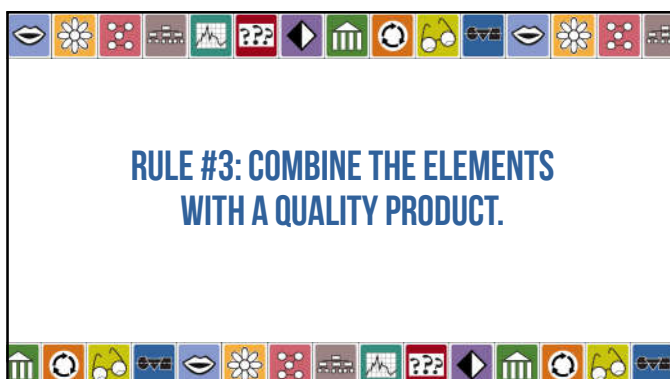
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**△: WRITE A SECRET BRIEFING TO
PRESIDENT LINCOLN EXPLAINING HOW THE
WAR'S OUTCOME MAY HAVE BEEN
DIFFERENT HAD THE SOUTH INDUSTRIALIZED
FIRST.**


Unanswered Questions

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**RULE #3: COMBINE THE ELEMENTS
WITH A QUALITY PRODUCT.**

77



**BECAUSE SAYING, "CREATE A LIST..."
IS STILL JUST A LIST.**

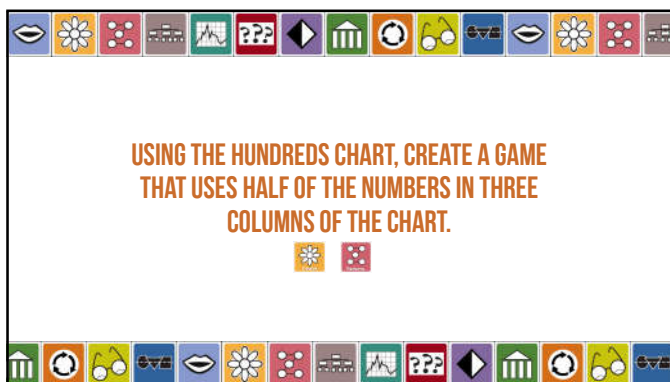
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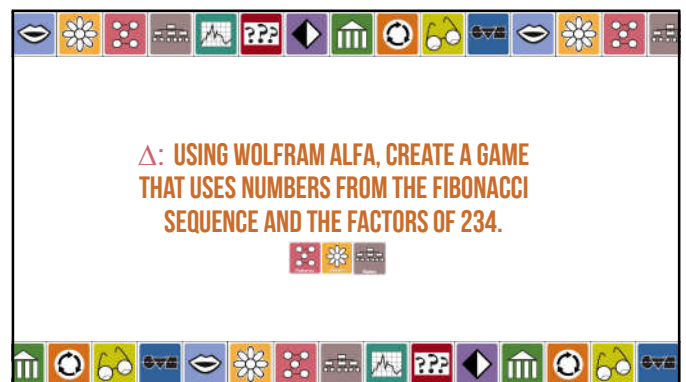
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81



82



83



84



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