

# Project: Twice-Told Tale

## The Jungle Book

### Overview of Twice-Told Tale--The Jungle Book

You will be writing a Creative Writing piece in this lesson. A Creative Writing piece is one in which you create something. A Creative Writing piece might be a story, a poem, an allegory, an analogy, a compare and contrast paper, or any other writing in which you use your creativity (and sometimes other things like sources or given materials to model from) in order to write.

#### I. TOPIC OF ASSIGNMENT

This Creative Writing assignment is one in which you will create a story. However, it will not be difficult because you will write what CI calls a "Twice-Told Tale." This is one in which you use a model to create your tale. You are using someone else's story to "piggyback" or create yours from.

In this assignment, you will use a rewrite of the famous *Jungle Book* tale as a model to design a story of your own. However, instead of using Mowgli and a wolfpack, you will choose another person, animal, or object that seems to not fit in but, in reality, is better because of the differences. You may choose one from the list below or come up with something different altogether:

- A. Alien on earth or other planet
- B. Human on alien planet
- C. Under the seas characters
- D. Polar bears and seals

#### II. NUMBER OF PARAGRAPHS\* IN THE BODY OF YOUR STORY

- A. **Basic** students will write **20-40 paragraphs** for the body (P'soB) (with dialogue in some).
- B. **Extension** students will write **30-50 paragraphs** for the body (P'soB) (with dialogue in some).

\*Note: The paragraphs suggested for this story are short ones--like the model you will be writing from. Since you are assigned quotations (dialogue between the characters), you will have many short paragraphs (since you will change paragraphs every time a new speaker begins speaking)--rather than just several lengthy paragraphs.

#### III. SENTENCES PER PARAGRAPH

The number of sentences you will have per paragraph will vary and will be dependent upon how much dialogue you include. You should count sentences for this project, not paragraphs. Use IV Sentences for counting.

#### IV. SENTENCES VS. PARAGRAPH COUNT

Since you will include dialogue in your story, you will likely have more paragraphs--with fewer sentences in each one. In that case, you will need to count total number of sentences rather than paragraphs:

- A. **Basic:** Include a **total of 60-120 sentences**
- B. **Extension:** Include **110-160 sentences**

#### V. OPENING PARAGRAPH

You will not write a separate Opening Paragraph for your story. You will set the stage/ scene right from the beginning, just like the model does.

#### VI. CLOSING PARAGRAPH

You will not write a separate Closing Paragraph for your story. You will close your story as you write the entire piece, so that flows better.

#### VII. SOURCES

Students are not required to have sources for this story. If you need to research for your story (to discover what a castle in your time/ place looked like, for example), you may do so from any source that helps you find the needed information.

#### VIII. QUOTATIONS WITHIN YOUR STORY

You are required to have dialogue (using quotation marks) in your story.

#### IX. WRITE ON/ADDITIONAL SKILLS

- A. Character Development
- B. Hindrance Development
- C. Time Period Study (if needed)
- D. Direct or Indirect Paragraph Development via "Twice-Told Tale"
- E. Scene Development
- F. Dialogue Inclusion

Note: This Overview Box, which is provided at the beginning of each project, is here to give students (and teachers) an at-a-glance look at the entire composition assignment. Each step of each lesson is assigned and detailed throughout the week(s).

\*Note: Some of CI's books call the Piggyback Story a Twice-Told Tale.

# Lesson A. Study Skills and Prewriting: Choose Your Characters and Brainstorm for Possible Hindrances/Problems

↔ **A-1.** Read the model *The Jungle Book* (Box A-1) provided and think about what characters you think would make a creative *Jungle Book* story.

## *The Jungle Book* Model Story

A tiger, a panther, a bear, and a pack of wolves had gathered for a council. They were there to discuss who would take care of a young boy named Mowgli. No one had witnessed his arrival in the jungle, but Mother Wolf had discovered him. She had cared for him until the council could be called, and now she had brought him to the gathering. Shere Khan, the tiger, was the first to speak. "I am best fit to look after the man-cub," he declared. "I am the strongest animal in the jungle, so I deserve to have the boy."

### **[Scene 1: Animal council discusses Mowgli]**

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"You snake!" growled Bagheera, the panther. "You're going to kill the man-cub if you get your paws on him!"

"Are you challenging me?" snarled Shere Khan, taking a step toward Bagheera.

"Stop, we will have no fighting here," stated Akela, the wise old leader of the wolf pack. "We will not give him to Shere Khan, but who will take care of him?"

At this point, Baloo, the bear, spoke up, "Why can't you wolves take him? Mother Wolf has cared for him this long, and he would be safest with you."

"We would," responded Akela, "but we are already struggling to feed everyone. We can't afford to add a new member to our pack."

"I can help you with that," volunteered Bagheera. "If you accept him into your pack, I will do the hunting for him."

"It has been settled," declared Akela. "We will raise him, and Bagheera will bring him food."

### **[Scene 2: Wolves, Bagheera, Shere Khan, & Baloo dialogue about Mowgli]**

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No one dared to question the decision of the head wolf, and so the council ended. Mother Wolf carried Mowgli back to her cave while the other animals melted back into the foliage. However, Shere Khan was angry. He had not only failed to get the man-cub, but he had been insulted by Bagheera as well. "The man-cub will not always be protected," he muttered under his breath as he slunk away, "and when that happens, I'll have my chance." **[Scene 3: Shere Khan angry]**

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**Box A-1 (continued on next page)**

The years passed, and Mowgli grew and learned everything a young wolf-cub would learn. He became quite adventurous, exploring every part of the jungle. He was frequently accompanied by Baloo, who taught him everything he needed to know about the jungle. Mowgli learned all the languages of the animals from the old bear. Baloo also taught the boy how to survive and how to act politely toward other creatures. Finally, he warned Mowgli to avoid the monkeys, the only animals in the jungle who refused to obey any laws. **[Scene 4: Mowgli's training]**

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However, one day as Mowgli ran through the jungle, he was suddenly grabbed by several monkeys. He struggled to escape their grip, but it was useless. He was caught. As the monkeys carried him through the tree tops, though, a bird spotted him and carried the news of his predicament to Bagheera and Baloo. Both of them stopped what they were doing and rushed toward Monkey City. They were certain the monkeys would carry their captive there. Bagheera arrived first and charged into the mob of monkeys around Mowgli. Scratching and biting, he attempted to rescue his friend, but soon his enemies began to overwhelm him. **[Scene 5: Monkeys capture Mowgli]**

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As Bagheera was about to be defeated by the monkeys, Baloo lumbered into the fray. At first, he drove their enemies back, but he too was unable to rescue Mowgli. Just in time, Kaa, the snake, slithered into the scuffle. Striking at several of the primates, Kaa quickly sent them leaping and swinging away from the city. Kaa had his own plan, however, and he began a hypnotizing snake dance. While realizing what he was doing, the other animals were unable to avoid the captivity of his dance. Bagheera and Baloo were even caught in it, but Mowgli realized he had to do something. Shaking his friends, he broke the spell of the snake, and they all sprinted away to safety. **[Scene 6: Mowgli & friends escape]**

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Mowgli and his friends enjoyed numerous adventures, but soon Akela began to weaken with age. Other wolves, who were not willing to tolerate Mowgli, began to plot to kill Akela. One night, the evil wolves gathered together in a clearing.

“How are we going to get rid of Akela?” barked one wolf.

“Quiet! I’ll tell you the plan, “ replied the leader of the plot. “All we have to do is let me challenge Akela to a fight. His honor won’t let him refuse a challenger. When I win, the pack will have to accept me along with you as leaders. Then, we can also throw out that stinking man-cub.”

The evil wolves began to cackle. **[Scene 7: Evil wolves gather]**

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**Box A-1 (continued on next page)**

“We’ll have both of them for sure,” declared one of larger wolves.

“How do we know that the boy will allow you to fight Akela alone? He won’t care whether Akela must do it for his honor or not,” challenged a doubtful one.

The cackling stopped.

“I hadn’t thought of that, “ the leader slowly replied.

“But I had.”

The wolves turned and saw Shere Khan, sliding out of the underbrush.

“Listen to me, “ growled Shere Khan. “I will help you as long as you let me handle the man-cub.”

“It’s a deal,” responded the leader of the evil wolves.

“Next full moon, when the pack gathers together, I’ll be there to help,” smiled Shere Khan, revealing his huge teeth. And with that, he sauntered back into the dark shadows of the jungle. **[Scene 8: Evil wolves and Shere dialogue about plot to kill Akela]**

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Bagheera had been listening from the branch of a tree on the edge of the clearing. As soon as the meeting ended, he leapt as fast as he could through the treetops to warn Mowgli. He discovered the boy sleeping in the cave with Mother Wolf and her now grown cubs. Waking Mowgli, he brought him away from the cave and into the foliage. **[Scene 9: Bagheera goes to Mowgli]**

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“Mowgli,” he whispered, “Shere Khan is planning to kill you. He’ll wait for the next full moon when the pack gathers together. Then he’ll strike”

“If he wants to kill me, why would he wait until then? Why not now?” questioned Mowgli.

“He thinks he has a perfect opportunity now, but I am going to foil his plans,” replied Bagheera, trying to avoid Mowgli’s question.

“You didn’t answer my question,” insisted Mowgli.

**Box A-1 (continued on next page)**

“Alright,” sighed Bagheera, “some of the wolves who don’t like Akela are plotting to kill him. At the next meeting of the pack, on the night of the next full moon, their leader will challenge Akela. He understands that the good wolf won’t be able to refuse him since that would be against his honor. They expect Akela will be killed, and they will become leaders of the pack.”

“That’s awful!” exclaimed Mowgli, “But how would that be a reason for Shere Khan to kill me that same night?”

“The wolves realize that you’ll be there, and they’re afraid you will stop them from fighting Akela. Shere Khan agreed to kill you then so that they don’t have to worry about you.”

“Oh,” replied Mowgli, and then he dropped onto a rock. He remained there for a minute or so, staring at his feet and contemplating what he had just heard.

Still staring at his feet, he spoke, “Well, it would be easiest for me to stay away from the meeting that night, but then Akela would certainly die. But if I go, Shere Khan will kill me.”

Raising his head and eyeing the wise panther, he asked, “What would you have me do, Bagheera?”

**[Scene 10: (continued from previous page) Mowgli & Bagheera dialogue about wolves plot]**

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“Akela will die either way,” began Bagheera, “and Shere Khan will still chase you if you stay away from the meeting. However, I have a weapon that everyone, even Shere Khan fears.

“What is it?” Mowgli questioned, leaning forward eagerly.

“The Red Flower, or as men call it, fire.”

“The Red Flower! No creature except man will go near it, but how would I get it and carry it here?”

“In the village, by every house, rests some of the Red Flower,” replied Bagheera. “As far as carrying it, you are one of them. You do not need to fear it.”

“Oh Bagheera! I’m not sure I can do it,” Mowgli cried out.

“I’m confident in you,” replied Bagheera. “Now get some sleep.” **[Scene 11: Mowgli & Bagheera dialogue about Red Flower]**

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**Box A-1 (continued on next page)**

The days leading up to the meeting of the pack quickly passed. Just before the gathering, Mowgli hurried through the jungle. He had often spotted the Red Flower as he watched the village from the shelter of the underbrush. This time he would come within inches of its power. Creeping up to the nearest hut, he quietly removed the lighted torch from its holder. He reached his hand toward the flame. With a yelp, he pulled it back. That hurts, he thought. **[Scene 12: Mowgli gets Red Flower]**

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As speedily as he could, Mowgli carried the Red Flower back through the jungle. Soon, he reached the clearing where the wolves always met. Most of them were already there, and the rest were arriving. Crouching in the shelter of the trees, Mowgli waited for the meeting to begin. On the rock in the middle sat Akela. Next to him, Mowgli spotted the leader of the evil wolves. Then, Mowgli noticed two gleaming eyes peering out of the underbrush on the other side of the clearing. It was Shere Khan. **[Scene 13: Mowgli goes to wolf meeting]**

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Akela started the meeting as tradition demanded which meant challenging anyone to fight him. The other wolves were shocked when the leader of the evil wolves sauntered toward the rock. Akela prepared to face the challenger in the desperate fight. With a leap, the evil wolf knocked Akela off the rock. The old leader was up in an instant, and soon he and the younger wolf were in a life-and-death struggle. Mowgli, filled with passion at the sight of the evil wolf knocking Akela off the rock, stepped out of the shadows. At the same moment, Shere Khan's huge body emerged from the other side of the clearing. The time for the fight between Mowgli and Shere Khan had arrived. **[Scene 14: Evil wolves challenge Akela]**

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Shere Khan bounded across the clearing toward Mowgli. Fearless, Mowgli stood ready with the torch in his outstretched hand. Shere Khan stopped short at the sight of the Red Flower in the boy's hand. Staring at the flame, he began to pace back and forth. **[Scene 15: Shere Khan sees Red Flower]**

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"Too scared to fight me?" Mowgli challenged.

"No!" growled the tiger, and he sprang at the Mowgli. Shere Khan missed as Mowgli anticipated his spring and leapt away. His jaws "snapped" shut on air. Shere Khan rolled into the underbrush, leaped onto his feet, and turned to face Mowgli. As he did so, Mowgli threw the torch. It struck Shere Khan in the face. Roaring in pain, he bounded back into the jungle. **[Scene 16: Mowgli defeats Shere Khan]**

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**Box A-1 (continued on next page)**

**Box A-1 (continued from previous page)**

As soon as Shere Khan was out of sight, Mowgli turned to watch the fight between Akela and the evil wolf. What he witnessed caused him pain. Akela was lying unmoving on the ground, and the evil wolf occupied the rock. Tears began to cloud Mowgli's eyes. Not only was Akela dead, but Mowgli's days in the pack were also ended. His eyes blinded by tears, Mowgli stumbled into the darkness of the jungle.

**[Scene 17: Akela die/Mowgli leave wolves]**

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Bagheera had witnessed both battles from a nearby tree, and he spotted Mowgli leaving the clearing. Softly leaping to the ground, the old panther padded up beside the boy. Comforted by the presence of his friend, Mowgli lifted his head up as he ambled along the path. Bagheera realized the pain the boy was feeling and remained quiet. Mowgli, accepting the new life he would now begin, turned his steps toward the village. Soon, they were at the edge of the jungle. Turning to Bagheera with tears in his eyes, Mowgli hugged him and whispered goodbye. Then, leaving the shelter of the trees, he trotted toward the village. He would miss the jungle, but he was headed for the place he truly belonged. **[Scene 18: Mowgli leave Bagheera and jungle]**

Based on Original Story by Rudyard Kipling

<> **A-2.** Read the sample story, “The Arctic Book” (Box A-2)

<> **A-3.** Choose the setting/time/place for your story, and write it on the lines provided.

Your Setting \_\_\_\_\_

<> **A-4.** Now that you have read the model story, choose characters that you would like to write a Twice-Told Tale of, and write these characters on the lines provided below. Remember, these could be male or female people or animals, from today or the past.

The characters (types, names, and characteristics) I will use in my story will be:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

<> **A-5.** Brainstorm (and list) problems and hindrances, obstacles, etc., that your character might encounter in the Brainstorming Box provided (Box A-4). Follow these tips:

1. Now that you know what you will be writing about, and you have read the model story, you will want to **brainstorm to think of conflicts, obstacles, or problems that your character may encounter.**
2. You will also want to **brainstorm** (or research if you are unfamiliar with the time period you will write about) **ideas about the environment, living conditions, time period, etc.**
3. **Do not worry about whether you will use them all**, or if some seem silly or unrealistic. You will have a chance to delete or further develop your ideas later.



**Directed Brainstorming Box**

**Setting Details**

**Obstacles/Hindrances**

**Solutions**

**Other**

## Lesson B. Study Skills/Research: Choose Paragraph Topics or “Scene Topics”

When you do a Sentence-by-Sentence (S-by-S) over material given to you, you just take a group of paragraphs and write an outline using key words from each sentence of each paragraph. When you write stories, you may choose to use a different outlining approach. Many students still enjoy the Sentence-by-Sentence approach to outlining that you have probably used in other CI books. However, sometimes students just want to write or highlight a few words to remind themselves of what they want each paragraph to contain.

<> **B.** Follow these steps to determine paragraph topics for your story:

1. **Method A Box:** Check out the “Sample Outline From Model *The Jungle Book* Story” (**Method A Box**) provided for you. **This is one way that you may choose what you would like to include in each paragraph.**
  - a. In this method, you will just take the model story provided for you, and **after reading each paragraph, write what you will have happen to your character(s) in that paragraph** of your story on the lines provided for this in **Method A Box**.
  - b. In this way, **you will write the same number of paragraphs that the model story has**--and the model story will literally be your “model” to “piggy back” off of. You can use the paragraphs of it to spark your creativity of what you want in each paragraph of your story.

**OR**

2. **Method B Box:** You may choose to just **design all of your own paragraph topics**--with each paragraph being a unit of thought and **every time something new happens** (a new decision, a new encounter, a new change of scenery, etc.), **you will move into the next paragraph.** You will still use the same story line (“The Jungle Book”) whether you model paragraph by paragraph or you design each paragraph independently.

Note: If your story will contain extensive dialogue, you will have more paragraphs than the lines given. If that is the case, think of each paragraph topic like a “scene” line -- not necessarily where your paragraphs will be divided, but rather where you move to a new part of the story. You may have two or three paragraphs of dialogue in one paragraph in that case. Mark each new paragraph (each time the speaker changes) with an asterisk or some other mark.

## Sample Outline From Model *The Jungle Book* Story -- Method A Box\*

### Scene 1: Animal council discusses Mowgli

Your Scene One: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 1: Wolves gather 4 council  
Sentence 2: Discuss care of Mowgli  
Sentence 3: Mother Wolf discover  
Sentence 4: Brings Mowgli 2 council  
Sentence 5: Shere Khan speaks

### Scene 2: Wolves, Bagheera, Shere Khan, & Baloo dialogue about Mowgli

### Scene 3: Shere Khan angry

Your Scene Two: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 1: Council ends  
Sentence 2: Mother Wolf carry Mowgli 2 cave  
Sentence 3: Shere Khan angry  
Sentence 4: Failed 2 get man-cub  
Sentence 5: Wait 4 chance 4 revenge

### Scene 4: Mowgli's training

Your Scene Three: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 1: Mowgli learn like wolf  
Sentence 2: Explore jungle  
Sentence 3: Taught by Baloo  
Sentence 4: Learn languages of jungle  
Sentence 5: Taught survival/etiquette  
Sentence 6: Warn Mowgli about monkeys

### Scene 5: Monkeys capture Mowgli

Your Scene Four: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 1: Grabbed by monkeys  
Sentence 2: Unable to escape grip  
Sentence 3: Caught  
Sentence 4: Bird tell Bagheera/Baloo  
Sentence 5: Rush toward Monkey City  
Sentence 6: Certain monkeys carry there  
Sentence 7: Bagheera 1st there  
Sentence 8: Soon overwhelmed by enemies

### Scene 6: Mowgli & friends escape

Your Scene Five: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 1: Baloo > fight  
Sentence 2: Unable 2 rescue  
Sentence 3: Kaa snake > fight  
Sentence 4: Frighten monkeys

Sentence 5: Begin snake dance  
Sentence 6: Animals captive by dance  
Sentence 7: Capture Bal/Bagh. & Mowgli see  
Sentence 8: Snake friends/run away

### Scene 7: Evil wolves gather

Your Scene Six: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 1: Akela weaken w/ age  
Sentence 2: Other wolves plot 2 kill Akela  
Sentence 3: Evil wolves gather > clearing  
Sentence 4: 1st wolf speaks  
Sentence 5: Leader tells plan 2 group  
Sentence 6: Evil wolves cackle

### Scene 8: Evil wolves and Shere Khan dialogue about plot 2 kill Akela

### Scene 9: Bagheera goes 2 Mowgli

Your Scene Seven: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 1: Bagheera listen > tress  
Sentence 2: Leap through treetops 2 warn Mowgli  
Sentence 3: Discover boy sleeping cave w/ good wolves  
Sentence 4: Wake Mowgli/bring > 2 jungle

### Scene 10: Mowgli & Bagh. dialogue about wolves plot

### Scene 11: Mowgli & Bagh. dialogue about Red Flower

### Scene 12: Mowgli gets Red Flower

Your Scene Eight: \_\_\_\_\_

Sentence 1: Days 2 meeting pass  
Sentence 2: Mowgli hurry through jungle  
Sentence 3: See Red Flower > village  
Sentence 4: Time 2 come within inches of power  
Sentence 5: Remove lighted torch from holder  
Sentence 6: Reach hand 2 flame  
Sentence 7: Yelp/pull back  
Sentence 8: Hurts

### Scene 13: Mowgli goes to wolf meeting

### Scene 14: Evil wolves challenge Akela

### Scene 15: Shere Khan see Red Flower

### Scene 16: Mowgli defeat Shere Khan

### Scene 17: Akela die/Mowgli leave wolves

### Scene 18: Mowgli leave Bagheera and jungle

\*Use these paragraph topics if you desire to model each paragraph of your story after the events of the model story. Your sentences will all be your own, original sentences. If you use Method A, you will just model paragraph after paragraph--then design your own sentences.

Method A Box

## Your Scene Topics For Method B

My Scene One: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Two: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Three: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Four: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Five: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Six: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Seven: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Eight: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Nine: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Ten: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Eleven: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Twelve: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Thirteen: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Fourteen: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Fifteen: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Sixteen: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Seventeen: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Eighteen: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Nineteen: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Twenty: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Twenty-One: \_\_\_\_\_

My Scene Twenty-Two: \_\_\_\_\_

Method B Box (continued on next page)

**Method B Box (continued from previous page)**

**My Scene Twenty-Three:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Scene Twenty-Four:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Scene Twenty-Five:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Scene Twenty-Six:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Scene Twenty-Seven:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Scene Twenty-Eight:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Scene Twenty-Nine:** \_\_\_\_\_

**My Scene Thirty:** \_\_\_\_\_

## The Arctic Book

### Student Sample Twice-Told Tale Story

A meeting of the animals had been called. A killer whale, a lynx, a caribou, and a pod of seals were all there. The object of their discussion was a tiny polar bear cub. Up to this time, he had been taken care of by one of the seals who had discovered him. She had now shown him to the council. The killer whale spoke first. "Let me have the polar bear cub," he announced. "I am the strongest creature in the sea, so I deserve to have him."

"You won't take care of him!" exclaimed the lynx. "You just want him for dinner!"

"How dare you insult me!" spat the killer whale, lunging onto the ice.

"Calm down, you two," announced the leader of the seals. "We will not allow the killer whale to seize him, but what other options do we have?"

"Why can't you seals take him?" the caribou remarked. "You have taken wonderful care of him so far."

"That would be our first choice, too," replied the leader of the seals, "but he eats huge numbers of fish each day. We can't spare someone to hunt for him."

"If that's the only reason you can't accept him into your pod, then I can help you," offered the lynx. "I'll provide food for him."

Everyone was quiet, mulling over the offer.

"It's a deal," asserted the leader of the seals, breaking the silence. "My pod will protect and tend to the cub, and the lynx will feed him."

The leader's word was the law of the pod, so the meeting ended. The seals led the young one to their nesting grounds while the other animals dispersed throughout the land. The killer whale was fuming, though. His attempt to gain possession of the cub had failed, and his motives had been questioned. "That bear cub better watch his back," he hissed as he glided through the water towards the ocean. "Someday, I'll be back."

The young polar bear quickly learned all a seal pup was normally taught in order to thrive in the Arctic. He rapidly revealed his love for exploration, as he roamed far inland from the nesting grounds. The caribou often journeyed along with him, giving him wise advice. The cub could soon communicate with the animals of the Arctic by following the advice of his hooved friend. His companion also discussed survival and etiquette with him. The most important thing he told the polar bear was to avoid associating with the albatrosses who were an unruly bunch.

Unfortunately, the young bear was unable to avoid the albatrosses. One day, several of them seized him and carried him through the air. The cub squirmed and tried to escape, but it was no use. He was firmly in the grip of the birds. As this was happening, a puffin noticed his predicament and sped off to tell the lynx and the caribou. They both rushed to the colony where they knew the albatrosses would carry him. Arriving first, the lynx charged into the colony and sent the birds flapping and squawking. But, he couldn't reach his friend who was being held high above him.

The caribou scared more of the birds, but he was also unable to reach the cub. Suddenly, a falcon dove into the fray. As the predator seized several albatrosses, the rest rapidly fluttered to safety. They dropped the young polar bear in their fright. Luckily, the lynx was there to catch him. Then, they all dashed away across the ice to safety.

Box A-2 Student Sample (continued on next page)

A number of times the polar bear and his friends had adventures, but eventually the leader of the seals began to weaken. A group of evil seals plotted to usurp his position. In a secret bay they gathered to discuss their plan.

"What's the plan?" growled one seal.

"Be patient," responded the evil leader. "I'll tell you. One moon from now, I'll challenge our leader to a fight. He'll have to battle for his position. When I defeat him, we will become the rulers of the pod. After that, we can toss out that disgusting cub."

"He has no chance," gloated a larger seal.

"What if the cub decides to interfere? He won't allow you to fight the leader," piped up a smaller one.

"Hmmm..." was the puzzled response.

"I can answer that for you," declared a sudden voice from the water. "I'll take care of the young one," asserted the killer whale.

"Excellent," replied the evil leader.

"Just make sure you fight by the water, so I can grab that cub when he tries to help."

"Agreed," voiced the seals in unison.

"See you then," smirked the whale as he disappeared into the depths.

From behind a rock, the lynx had been spying on the conversation. Leaping through the snow, he rushed to warn the young bear. He reached the nesting grounds and spotted the cub sleeping with his seal friends. Tapping him on the shoulder, he woke him and helped him crawl out of earshot from the nesting grounds.

"I have something important to tell you," were the first words the lynx spoke. "The killer whale is plotting to kill you one moon from tonight."

"Why?" questioned the confused cub.

"He has discovered the perfect time to attack you, but he does not realize that I overheard him."

"But why is a month from now the perfect time," insisted the young bear.

"If you insist," sighed the lynx, "here it is. Some of the seals who don't like the leader are planning to kill him. One moon from now their evil leader will issue a challenge. Our honorable leader will have to accept it. When he does, they expect to defeat him and lead the pod themselves."

"That's horrible!" the cub cried out. "But that does not give the killer whale a better opportunity to kill me."

"Yes, it does. The evil seals are nervous you will interfere in their plot. They have "hired" the killer whale to erase you from the picture," explained the lynx.

"Oh..." remarked the cub, staring at the white snow beneath his feet. How long will that stay white, he wondered, before it turns red with the blood of those killed by the plot?

After a short moment of silence, the young polar bear raised his gaze to stare into the wise eyes of the lynx. "If I stay away from the nesting grounds, our leader will die. If I try to fight, though, I will be killed by the killer whale. What should I do?"

"Your leader will die either way. The killer whale will also eventually attack you if you stay away," remarked the lynx. "I have a weapon, though, that all animals fear, including the killer whale."

"You do?" the cub eagerly inquired.

"Yes, it's called a harpoon," the lynx replied.

Box A-2 Student Sample (continued on next page)

**Box A-2 Student Sample (continued from previous page)**

"A harpoon, but the men have it. No one dares to go near them! Who would be brave enough to get one?" the polar bear exclaimed.

"Down by their settlement, they dock their boats. In those, they leave their harpoons. At night, when no one is around, you can steal one. If anyone sees you, they will be too scared to attempt to fight you," explained the lynx.

"I don't know..." doubted the cub. "I'm not sure I'm brave enough..."

"Sure you are!" encouraged the lynx. "I wouldn't have asked you if I didn't think you could do it. Anyway, get some sleep. I've kept you up much too long as it is."

The next moon sailed by, and soon the time arrived for the cub to steal the harpoon. Creeping through the snow, hoping no one had noticed him, the polar bear neared the village. Quickly, he climbed into a boat and searched for a harpoon. He grabbed the weapon in his mouth, and scampered back onto land. He had it!

Speedily, he transported his cargo back to some rocks behind the nesting grounds. Dropping the harpoon on the snow next to him, he turned and peered out at his surroundings. Sure enough, he could spot some of the seals conversing with the leader. Soon, he heard one of them issue a challenge. The other seals cleared a space for the fight. "Whump!" the two seals slammed into each other, sending the old leader sliding backward. The fight was on.

Suddenly, he spotted the killer whale sliding through the water toward him. Placing his paws on the harpoon, the polar bear awaited his foe. Spotting the harpoon, the orca slowed his pace and then stopped. Steam billowed from the whale's blowhole.

"Are you scared?" the polar bear challenged.

Infuriated, the killer whale leaped out of the water at his prey. Sliding across the ice, the polar bear dodged his leap. The killer whale crashed through the ice, turned, and prepared to jump again. As he pierced through the water, the polar bear spied his chance. Picking up the harpoon in his teeth, he whipped his head toward his enemy. The harpoon flew through the air and struck the whale. In pain, the orca collapsed into the water and rapidly swam away.

Breathless, the cub turned toward the seals. The old leader lay dead, while the evil leader gloated over him. The polar bear had the sinking realization that his days with pod were done. Turning away with tears in his eyes, he sadly plodded inland. The lynx, emerging from another group of rocks, padded up to his friend. Realizing the pain the cub was feeling, he remained quiet. Comforted by the lynx, the cub looked up and suddenly spotted several other polar bears far in the distance. At that moment, he realized that he would never return to the pod. He also realized that he was headed to join the group where he truly belonged.

**Note: Notice how the author changed paragraphs each time the speaker changed.**