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Farewell to Manzanar

BY JEANNE WAKATSUKI & JAMES D. HOUSTON



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Name: _____

Date: _____

Pre-Reading**What Do You Know?****Objective:** Developing a knowledge base prior to reading nonfiction**Activity**

An autobiography, as you probably know, is a person's life story, told by that person. Even though it is only the life story of the author, the book may also broaden your knowledge about a specific era in history. Complete the chart below with as much information as you can about the World War II internment camps and specifically about Manzanar.

What do you know?	What do you want to know?	What did you learn?

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 1**Characterization****Objective:** Identifying character traits**Activity**

Jeanne describes her father as an incredibly proud man. Even though he is not an American citizen, Papa carries himself with dignity and demands respect. Working with your partner, identify specific actions or descriptions that demonstrate Papa's pride in himself and in America.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapters 3–4

Haiku Poetry

Objective: Writing haiku poetry

Activity

Haiku is a traditional Japanese form of poetry based on the number of syllables in the poem, not the number of words. Haiku poetry is most often written about elements of nature, such as weather, trees, plants, or animals. The most common form of haiku consists of three lines with five syllables in the first line, seven syllables in the second line, and five syllables in the third. One other unique feature of haiku is that the author usually avoids using metaphors or similes.

An example of a haiku poem:

Winter snow slides from
The eaves. Drops—plop—on my head.
As I walk under.

Complete the following chart with words that describe the weather or the natural environment of Manzanar. Once you have completed the chart, write a poem in the form of a haiku that describes some natural element of Manzanar. The first few are done for you.

Descriptive Word	Number of Syllables
Sandstorm	2
Cold	1
Sandy	2
Steamy summers	4

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 8**Point of View****Objective:** Inferring a character's perspective**Activity**

The authors describe Mama's submissive behavior and fear in this chapter. However, they do not explain why she acts as she does. Many people use a journal or diary to write about their feelings and reactions to events in their lives. Pretend that you are Mama, and write a journal or diary entry about your internment at Manzanar and your feelings about some of Papa's decisions.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 15

Writing Style

Objective: Understanding and recognizing the elements of style in writing

Activity

Generally the two elements that define a writer's style are diction (word usage) and sentence structure.

A. Complete the table below with examples from this chapter about Jeanne and James Houston's writing style. The first one is done for you.

Style Chart

DICTION		
Style	Response	Example
Is the language formal English, informal English, or dialect?		
Are the words easy or difficult to understand?		
Are the words concrete and simple to define, or does the text contain a lot of imagery, metaphors, similes, etc.?		

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 19**Symbolism****Objective:** Understanding the significance of symbols in life**Activity**

Before leaving Manzanar, Papa decides that he is going to buy a car even though the family does not have any money. This car symbolizes Papa's pride and his defiance of the treatment of his family while at Manzanar. Write a paragraph describing the importance of the car to Papa, why he bought it, why he refused to return to Los Angeles on the bus with the other internees, and what caused him to drive so crazily when he wanted to show the car to his family.