

Name: _____ Date: _____

Analyze the following excerpt of a drama. What do you notice? Label the different parts and features.

Characters: Coach, Marge, Linda, unnamed teammates

ACT 1

SCENE 1

Eight girls in basketball uniforms march onstage, sweating and frustrated, and sit on folding chairs. One of the players, Marge, continues all the way to the far end of the stage and stands with arms crossed. Another, Linda, stops right after entering and stands with arms crossed opposite of Marge. Coach storms onstage. He throws his clipboard to the ground.

Coach: *(fuming)* What in the world is going on out there? *(turning back and forth rapidly)* Marge and Linda, you're supposed to be our captains, but you're definitely not setting good examples! What gives?

Marge: Linda is hogging the ball!

The rest of the team nods.

Linda: Marge is taking terrible shots!

The rest of the team nods. Coach rubs his face with both hands.

Coach: Look, you two, I'm going to need some leadership ASAP. You used to be best friends, but I have no interest in hearing about what kind of soap opera dramatics brought you to be so mean to one another. Here's what we're going to do. Each of you needs to say one genuinely nice thing about the other. Otherwise, forget going out there for the second half. Linda, go!

Linda loudly chews her gum for a while before finally speaking.

Linda: She has good bangs.

Coach: That's not good enough.

Linda: She has good, I don't know, balance?

Coach: Nope. Try again.

Linda: Fine! She's very loyall!

Coach: I'll take it. Marge?

Marge: Linda means "pretty" in Spanish.

Coach: That's a translation, not a compliment.

Marge: I like her parents.

Coach: Come on.

Marge: Okay, okay! Linda is the smartest person I know!

Coach: Goodness, that was like pulling teeth.

Coach leads the team offstage. Linda waits for Marge, and they share a high-five before exiting together.

END OF SCENE

DRAMA – QUESTIONS

SET 1

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. In the opening stage directions, how does the reader know that Marge and Linda are upset with one another?
2. Why does Coach say that it was “like pulling teeth”?
3. What is the setting of the play?
4. What is the theme of the play?
5. How does the dialogue between Linda and Marge change from the beginning of the scene to the end?
6. Who are the main characters?