

# STORY WRITTEN IN PROSE

SET 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Analyze the following story. What do you notice? Label the different parts and features.

The moment Jonas pulled the gate shut behind him, he wished that he hadn't. Immediately, he could picture his history report sitting next to the toaster where he'd placed it. If he was a second late turning it in, he'd lose a whole letter grade. He simply couldn't afford that. There was a key to the front door under the mat, but he didn't have a key to the high iron gate of his parents' yard that he'd just shut. He didn't dare try to climb it. The top was lined with pointy iron spikes. No, the only shot was to lasso the latch.

Luckily, Jonas had been watching a ton of cowboy movies lately, so he thought that he could do it. He pulled the long lace out of his right boot and fashioned one end into a little lasso. He knew exactly what he was aiming for. He'd have to swing the lace over the top of the fence and hook it around a two-inch iron latch that was sticking out from the back of the knob in front of him. He'd never attempted something like this, but he was confident. He tossed the lace and could feel that he'd just missed the latch. Feeling good, he pulled it back to try again, but the lace snagged on top of the fence. He yanked at it, and it snapped.

Jonas took a deep breath. He had just the one lace left. He carefully tied the loop, concentrated, and swung it over. Success! He pulled gently to cinch the loop, and then he yanked hard. The gate popped open. He scrambled to get his report and then hustled for school, his unlaced boots flopping along as he went.

# STORY WRITTEN IN PROSE – QUESTIONS

SET 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. How do you know that the setting is in the morning?
2. How is the gate described so that the reader knows that Jonas cannot go over it?
3. What does Jonas do to solve the problem?
4. How does the middle paragraph contribute or add to the story?
5. In relation to school, how do the first and third paragraphs connect?
6. In which paragraphs does Jonas use his shoelaces to try to open the gate?