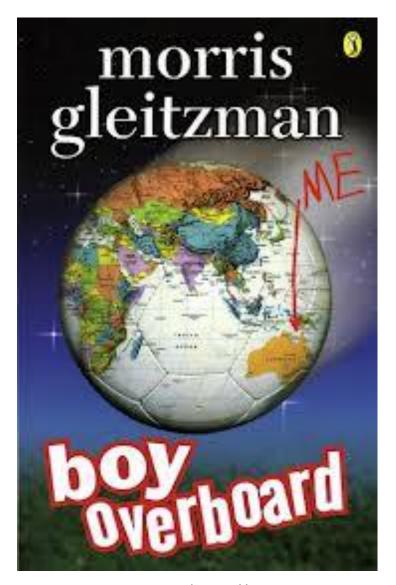
# Year 7 EAL Boy Overboard



**Reading Booklet** 

#### **INSTRUCTIONS**

As you read your novel, make notes of all the important facts about the characters, setting, plot and themes of the story. Question what you read, capture your thoughts and keep a note of any important quotes or evidence that can help you better understand the story, themes and characters.

## Context: Afghanistan

At the beginning of the Boy Overboard we see Jamal and his friends playing football in the rubble and debris left after many years of war. Because of this Afghanistan had become a war zone, where bombing and killing were part of everyday life.

Roads between towns were dangerous, many bridges and waterways were destroyed. Water was hard to find and was often not clean enough to drink. **Land mines** had been laid all over the country, these have caused many injuries. A large number of boys and girls have lost arms and legs because of these weapons.

In 1996 **the Taliban** took control of the capital city, Kabul. Later they grew very powerful and began to rule many areas of Afghanistan. These rules were very strict. Girls were no longer allowed to go to school. They were not allowed to go outside unless they wore a **burqa** (an item of clothing that covers the head and entire body) and in the company of a male relative. Women were not allowed to have jobs or show any independence. They HAD TO STAY AT HOME. Music was banned, televisions were smashed and books were piled up in the streets and burned.

Living under the Taliban laws meant that you and your family had to be very careful. You had to obey the laws or face jail, or worse, death.

Because of this many Afghans decided to abandon their homes and flee to safer places. Many refugees went to live in refugee camps in neighbouring Pakistan or Iran. Here they waiting for the chance to move somewhere better, where they could start a new life. Some children were born in these camps and grew up knowing only this way of life.

Others sold goods and, in desperation, put their wealth into the hands of **smugglers**. Smugglers are criminals who promise to take refugees away to betters places. The journeys were risky, many refugees had to travel many kilometres under terrible conditions. For some, when they reached their promised destination, they would discover that they could not stay in the new land and were turned away. Others were made to stay indefinitely in detention centres until they were could be **repatriated** (returned to their home country)

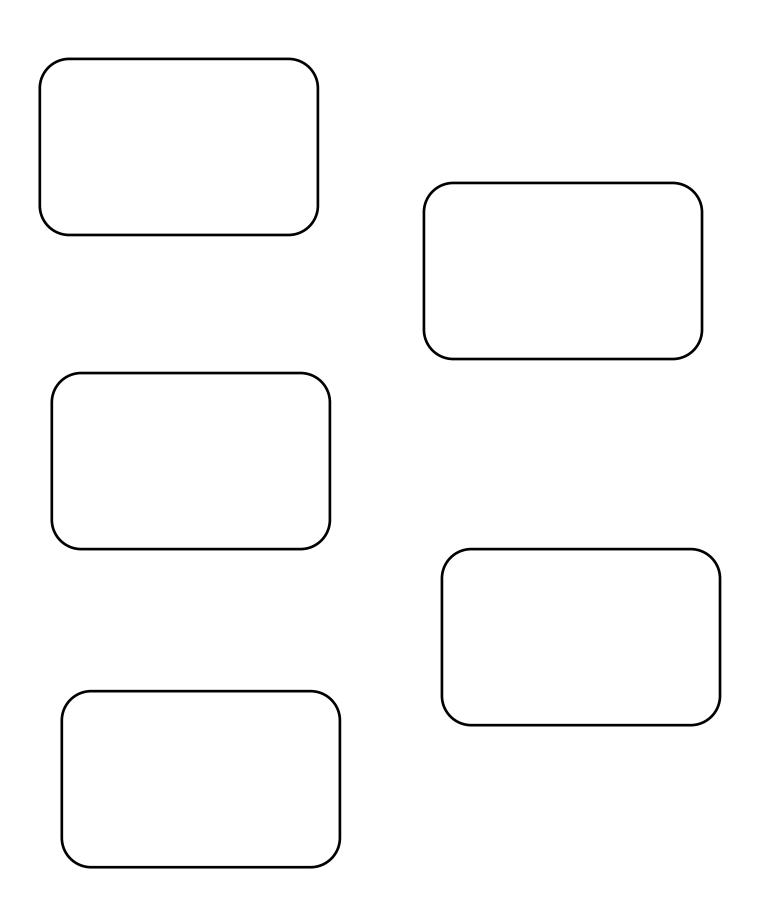






#### Characters

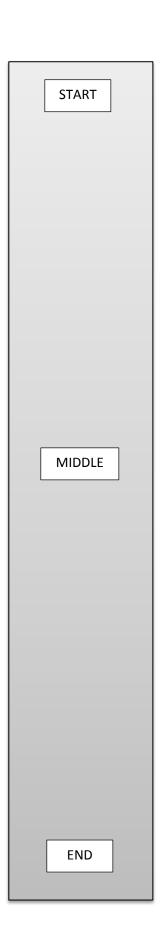
As you read, make a list of ALL the characters you are introduced to. Write their names in the boxes below and provide 3 adjectives for each



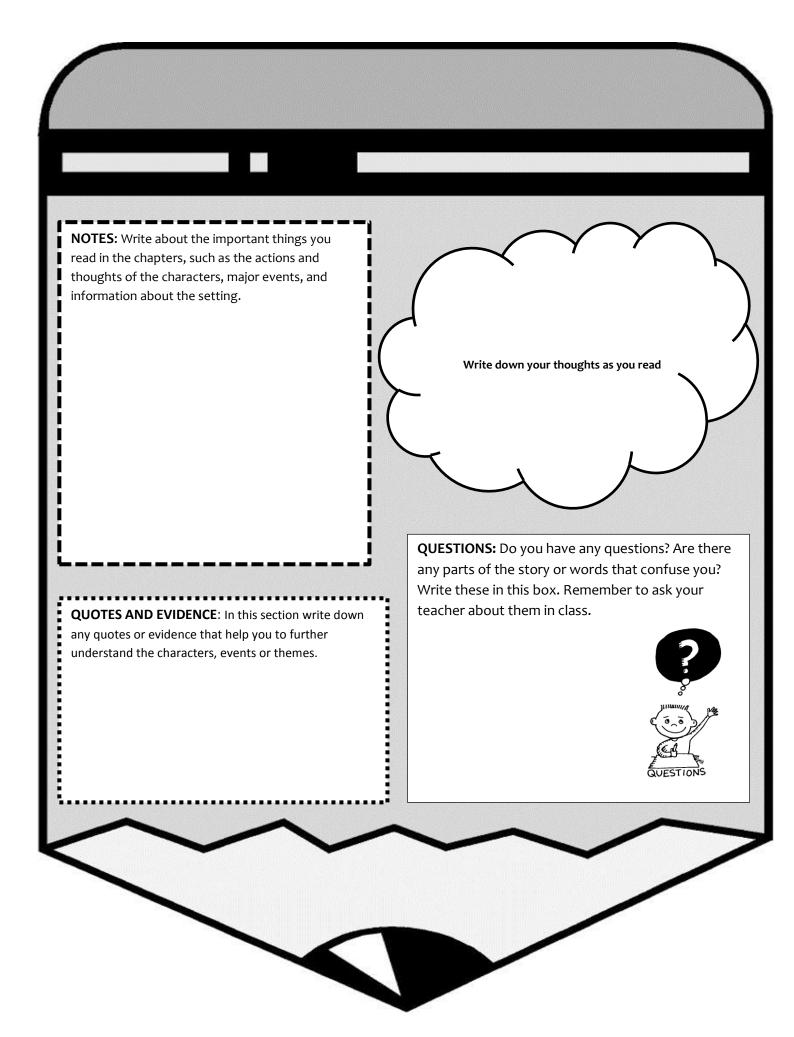
## Timeline of the novel

To be completed in class after the holidays

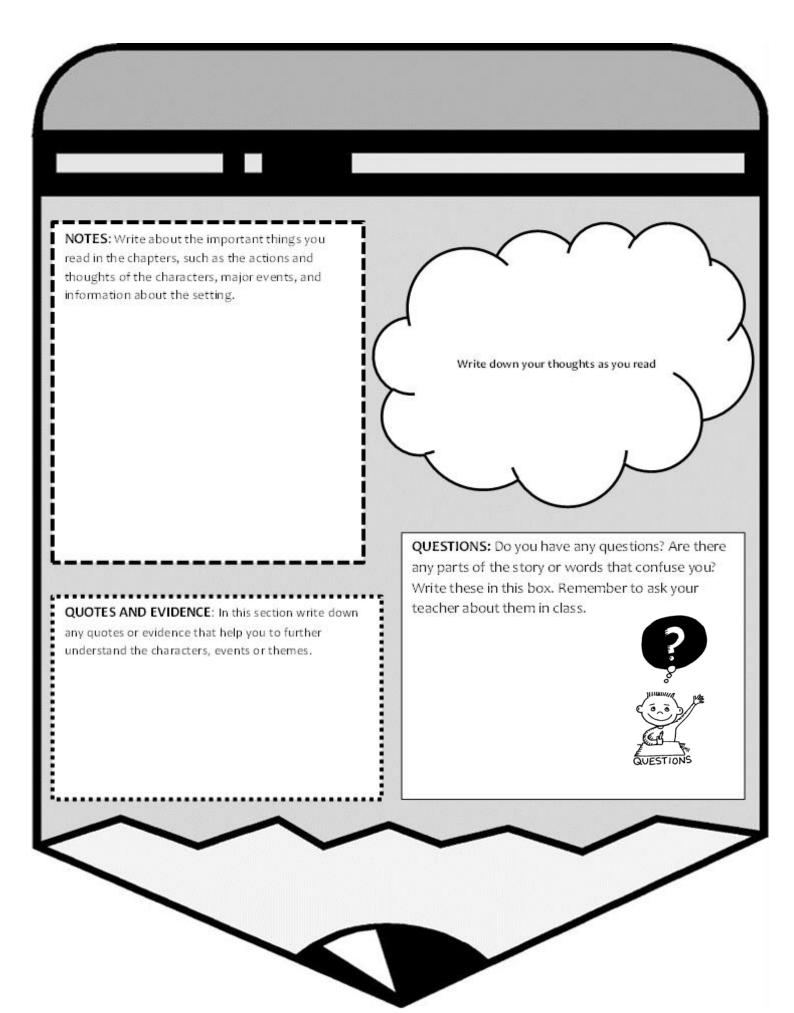
Plot the important events of the story on the timeline below



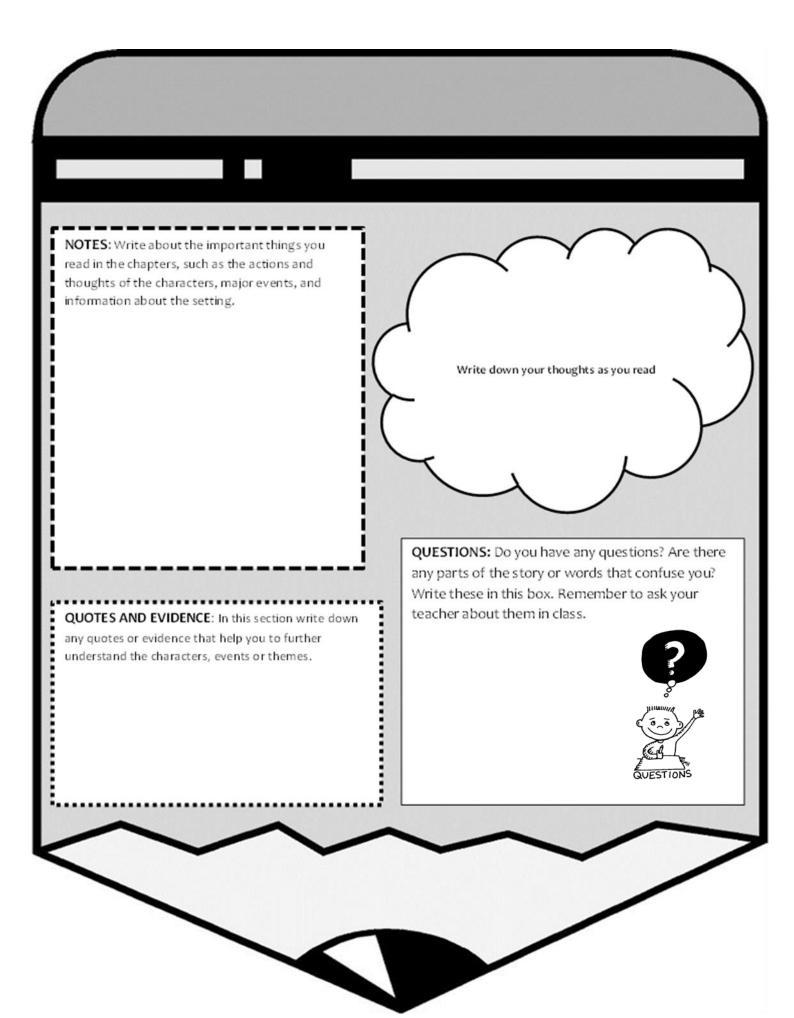
## Chapters 1-3



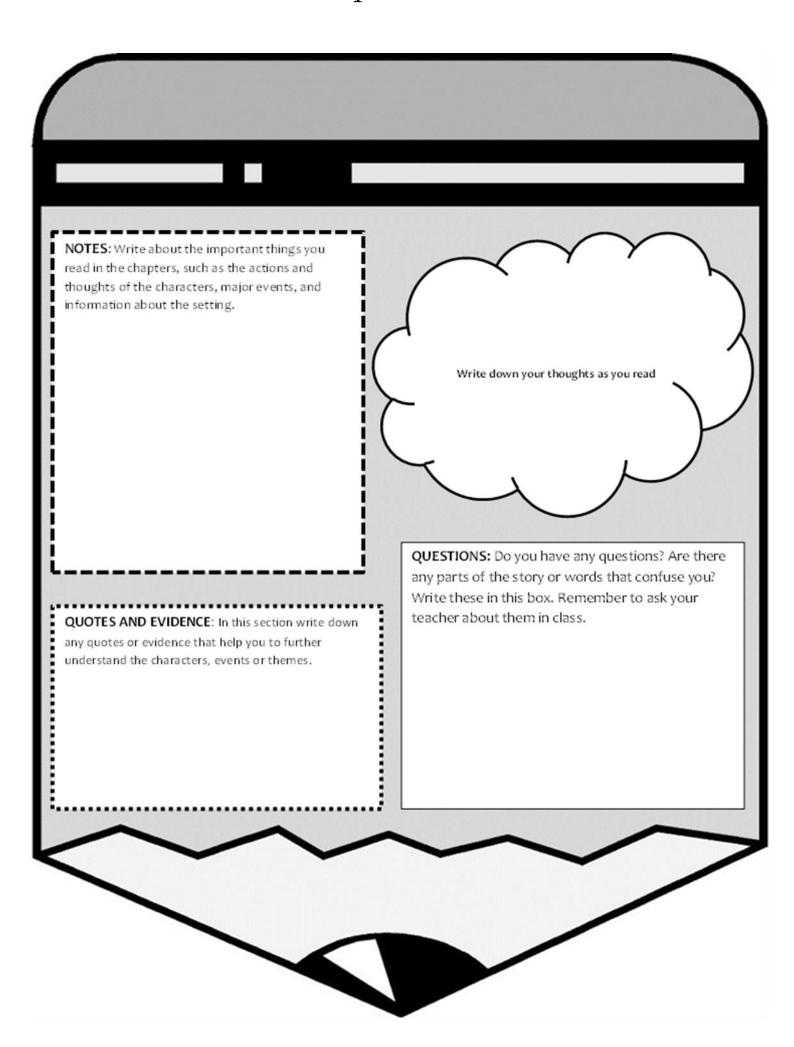
## Chapters 4-7



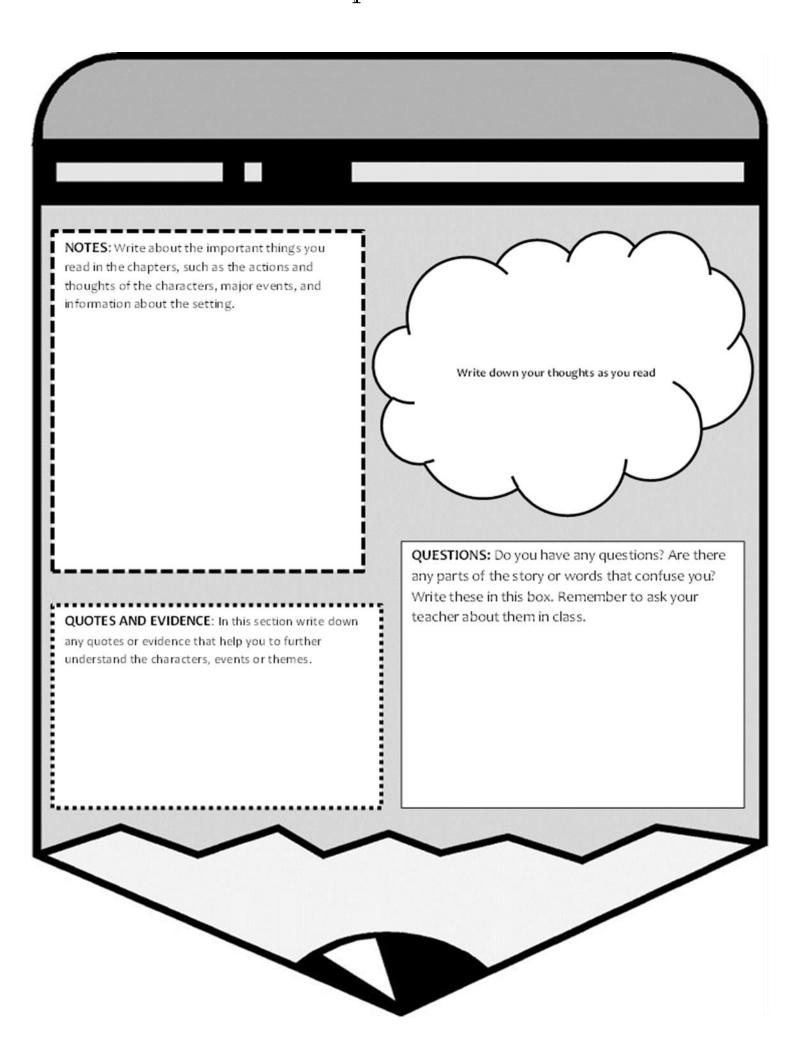
## Chapters 8-10



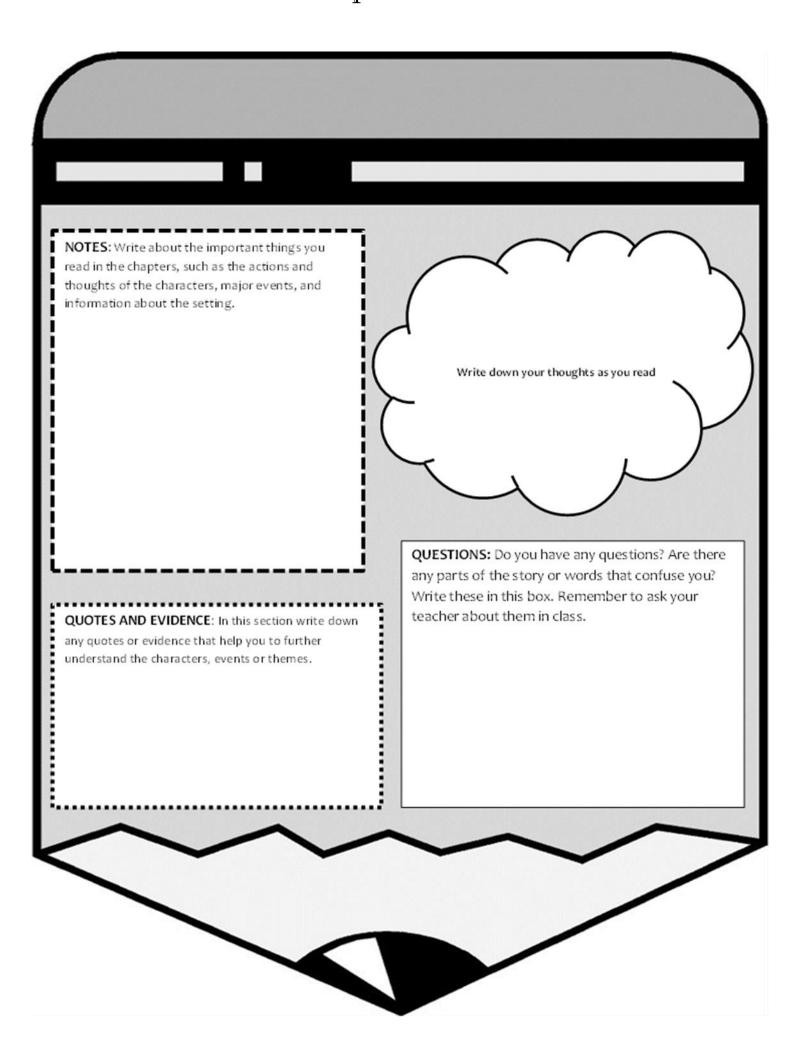
## Chapters 11-14



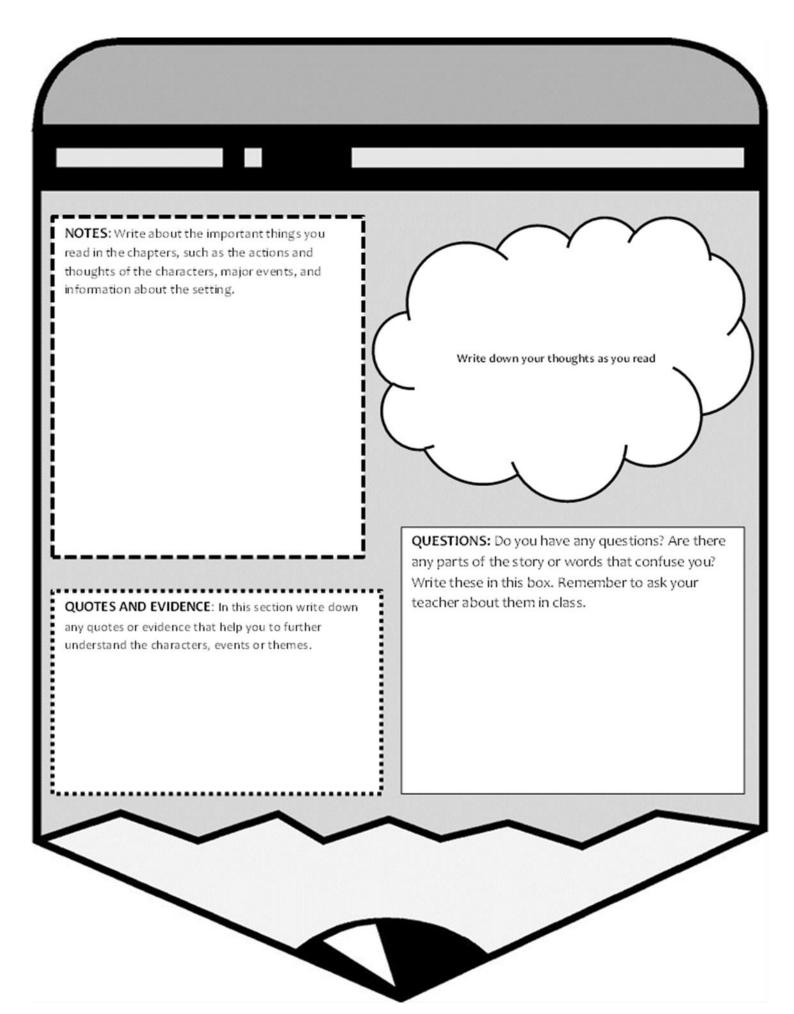
## Chapters 15-17



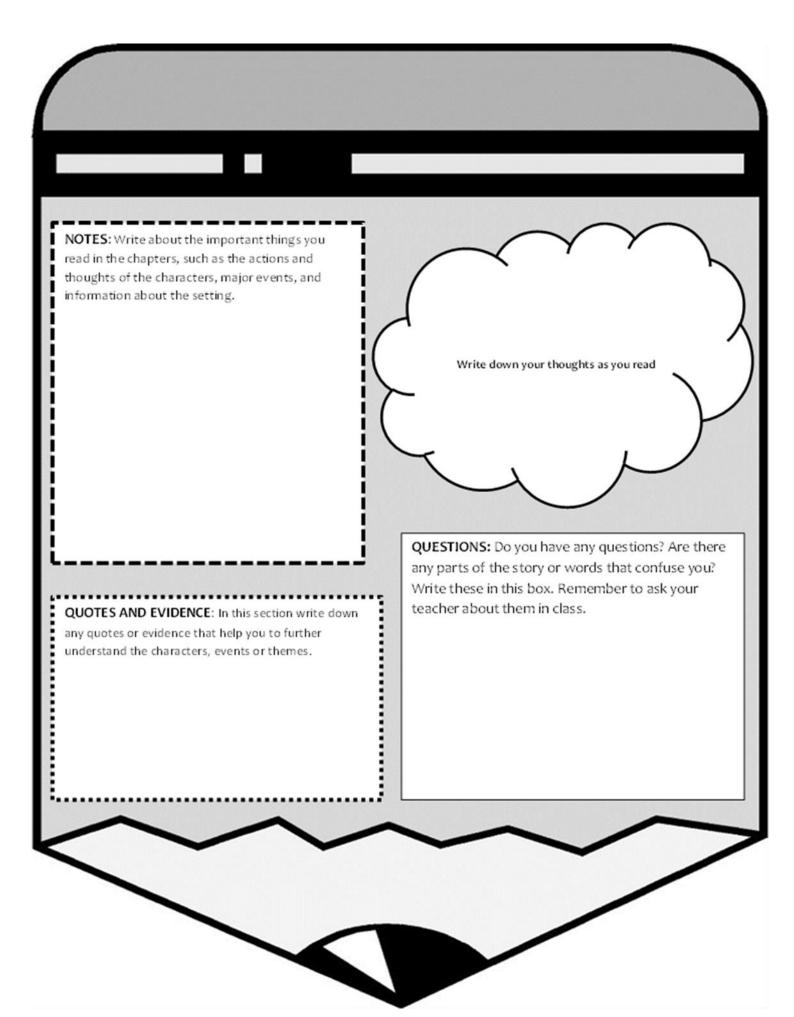
## Chapters 18-21



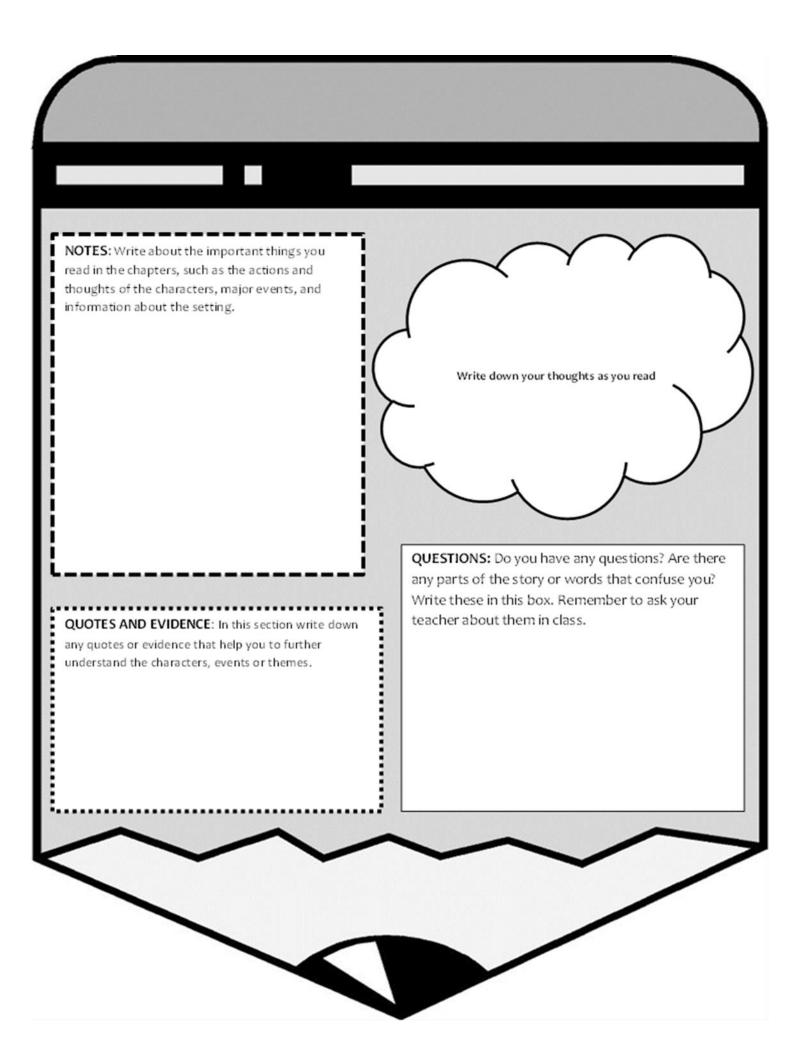
## Chapters 22-25



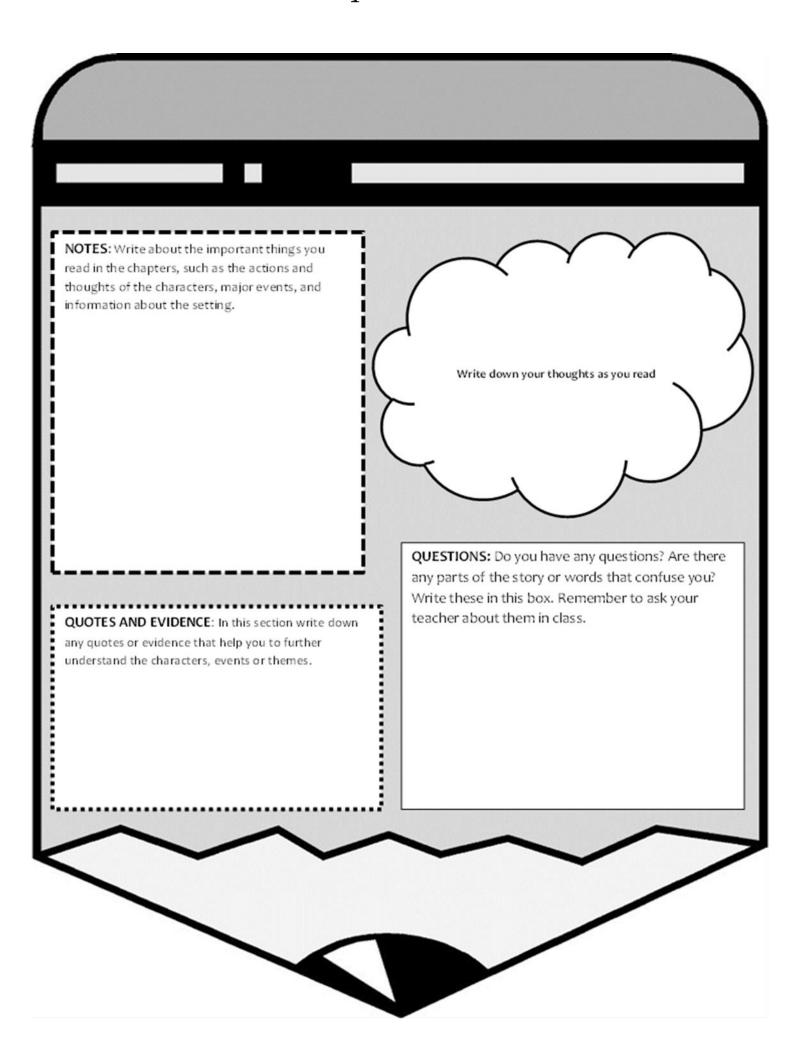
## Chapters 26-28



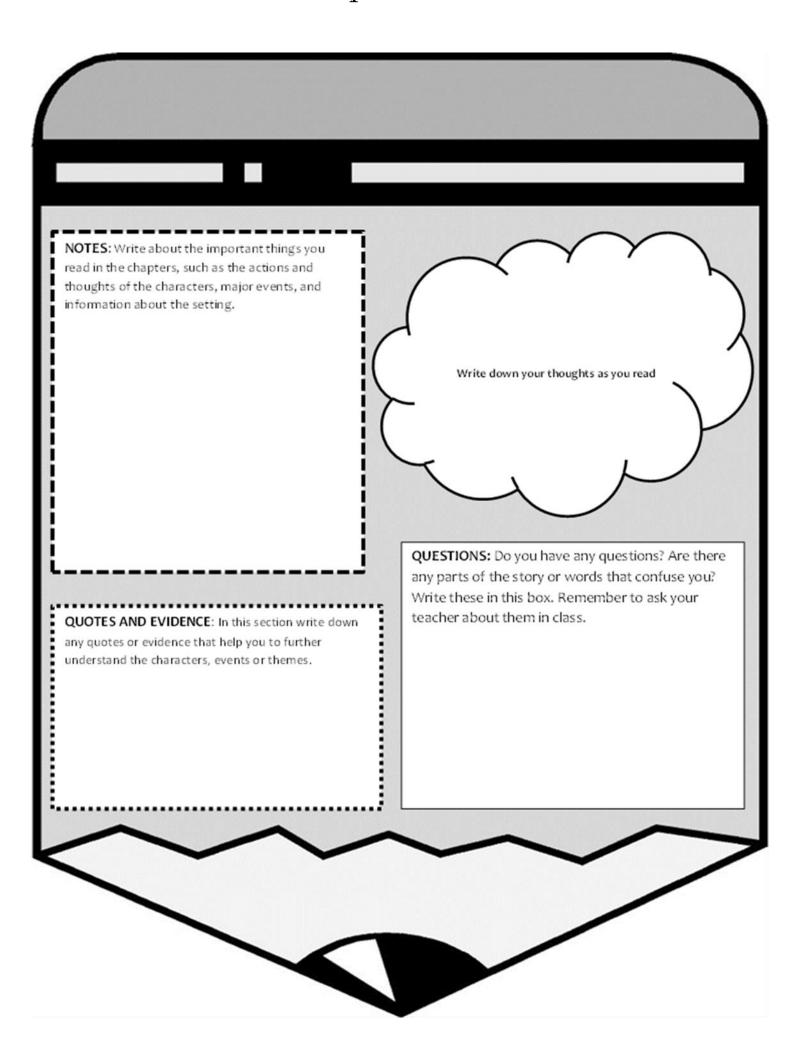
## Chapters 29-31



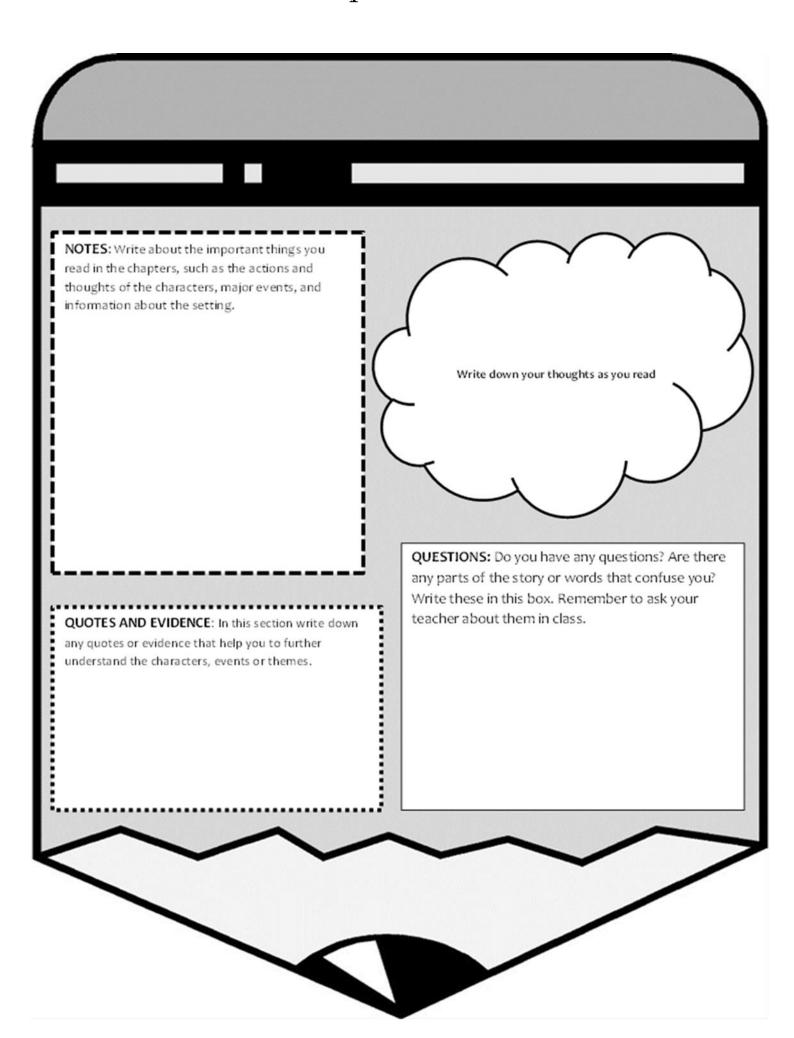
## Chapters 31-33



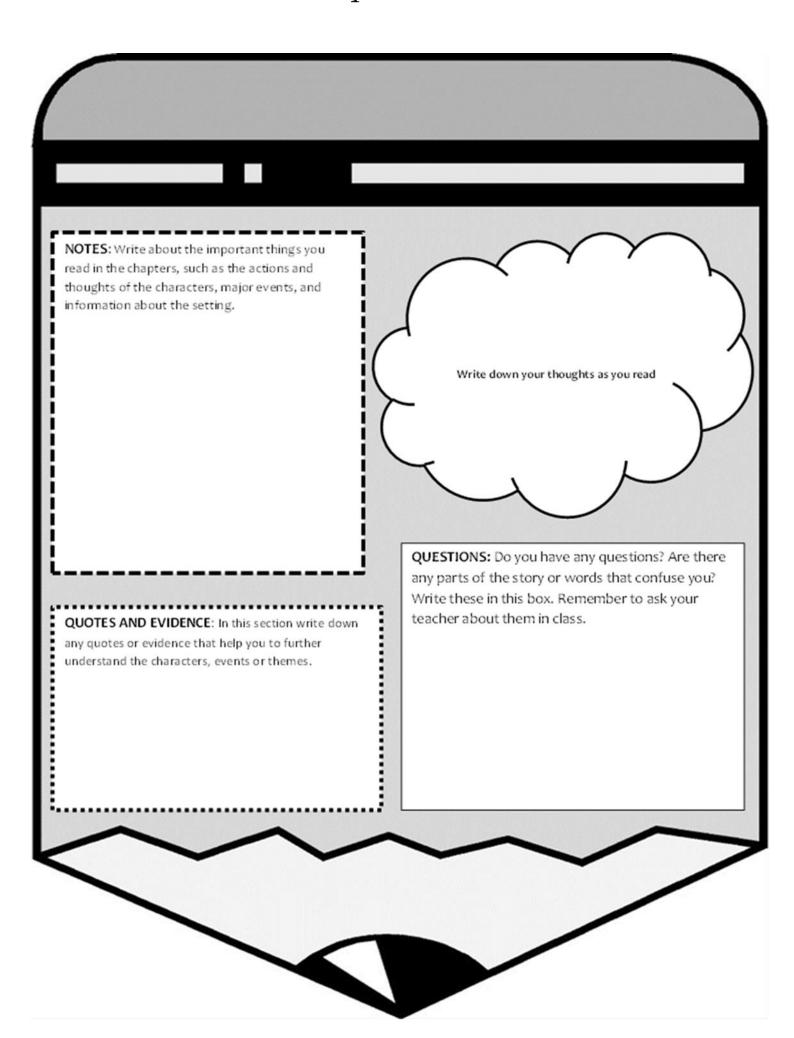
## Chapters 34-37



## Chapters 38-40



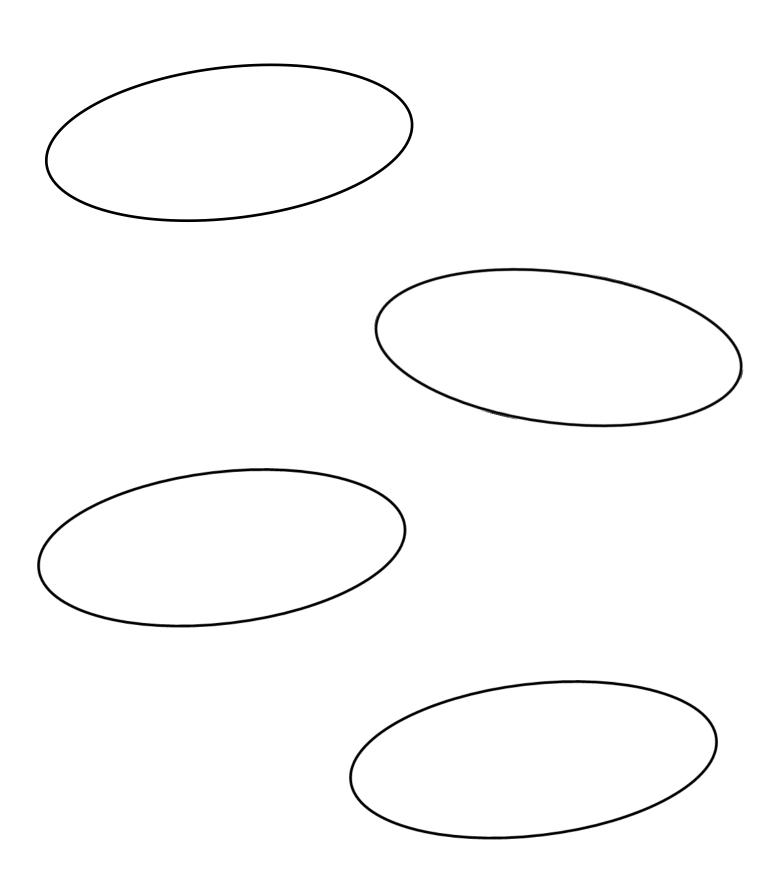
## Chapters 41-42



#### Themes of the Novel

A theme is the main idea, or ideas, of a story. You can also say that it is the message of the story. Stories can have more than one message or idea.

Now that you have read 'Boy Overboard', what do you think the themes of the novel are?



#### Reflection

What did you think about the novel? Did you like the story? What did you like the best about it? What did you like the least? Which part did you feel was the most important? Is there anything you still don't understand? What about the characters, who did you like the best? Why, why not? Write your reflection in the thought bubble below.

