

## The Three Levels of Reading Foundation Lesson

Complete the following activities on the paper provided.

1. Across the top of the paper, write the title of the work and the author's name.
2. Draw three large concentric circles on the paper (one circle inside another circle inside a larger circle).
3. For the innermost circle, concentrate on the concrete level of meaning—*reading on the lines*.
  - a. Write the most significant word from the part of the work assigned.
  - b. Quote the entire sentence in which the word appears—or enough of the sentence to reveal the word's use in context. Document the source of the quotation in parentheses.
  - c. Write multiple dictionary definitions of the word (denotation).
  - d. Explain why the word is important to the meaning of the work by placing it in the context of the narrative.
4. In the middle circle, concentrate on the abstract level of meaning—*reading between the lines*.
  - a. Referring to the text, draw four images from the assigned part of the reading.
  - b. Write an explanation of the link between each image and the word you have written in the innermost circle.
5. In the outer circle, concentrate on the thematic level of meaning—*reading beyond the lines*. Write two thematic statements drawn from the significant word you wrote in the innermost circle and the images you drew in the middle circle. Tie everything to the work as a whole.
6. Select one of your thematic statements to use as the thesis statement for an essay. On the reverse side of your paper, compose a short essay analyzing meaning in the assigned part of the work.