

## A Sound Of Thunder Classwork: Standards Review and Critical Thinking Exercise

**I. LITERARY TERMS:** Define each term and apply it to the story as directed below.

- a. foreshadowing. Describe what is foreshadowed in this story.
- b. simile. Write four examples of similes from the story, with page number.
- c. metaphor. Write four example of metaphor from the story, with page number.
- d. personification. Write two examples of personification from the story, with page number.
- d. protagonist. antagonist. Who is the protagonist of this story? Who is the antagonist of this story?
- e. conflict, external and internal. Explain one internal and one external conflict in the story.
- f. crisis. Where in the story is there a no-turning-back decision? What effect does this have on the final outcome?
- g. initiating event. What is the initiating event in this story?
- h. mood. Find a passage from the story that reveals mood. Write the page number.
- i. imagery. This story is full of imagery. Identify two passages that are imagistic, and write them down, with page number.

**II. QUESTIONS:** Answer the following questions in **COMPLETE SENTENCES**. By doing this you do not need to rewrite the questions. HOWEVER, if you do not answer in complete sentences, then you will have to write all of the questions five times each as a consequence.

1. What company does Eckels visit? Describe what this company offers, using words from the story and the page number.
2. What are the penalties for disobeying instructions? Why do you think this penalty is so stiff?
3. What about the recent election has made Eckels thankful?
4. What did some people want to do if Deutscher had won the election and why?
5. What does the man behind the desk tell Eckels happened last year that makes Eckels think about going on the safari?
6. Who is the Safari Leader? Describe him using three of the methods of characterization.
7. Why does Travis say that the cave man is not "expendable." Restate his argument in your own words.
8. What does Travis tell Eckels is the best way to kill a dinosaur?
9. When the hunters arrive at their destination, what does Travis tell them hasn't happened yet in history?
10. Restate Lesperance's definition of a "paradox" in your own words.
11. What is the antigravity metal Path and why must the men stay on it? Why do you believe the word Path is capitalized?
12. What happened to the machine and the men's clothes before they made their journey?
13. Why do the men wear sterilized clothing and oxygen helmets?
14. How do the men know what dinosaurs they can shoot? Why is this an important rule?
15. Explain this quote in your own words: "Strange," murmured Eckels. "Up ahead, sixty million years, Election Day over. Keith made President. Everyone celebrating. And here we are, a million years lost, and they don't exist. The things we worried about for months, a lifetime, not even born of thought of yet."
16. Where does the title of this story appear in the text? How can this title be interpreted two different ways?
17. How does the reader know Eckels is afraid?
18. What does Eckels say when he sees the size of the dinosaur?
19. Where was Eckels on his way to when he stepped off the Path? What causes him to step away from the Path?
20. What two things is the dinosaur compared to in line 311? What type of figurative language is each comparison?
21. What do Billings and Kramer do after the dinosaur is dead?
22. What does Lesperance offer Billings and Kramer that they turn down? Why do you believe they refuse him?
23. What does Travis tell Eckels they are going to do to him?
24. What does Travis fear might happen because Eckels stepped off the Path? Write down his words, with page number.
25. What does Travis make Eckels do in order to go back with them? Why does he do this?
26. Discuss Eckels's tone in the following quote: "Don't look at me," cried Eckels. "I haven't done anything... Just ran off the Path, that's all, a little mud on my shoes - what do you want me to do - get down and pray?"
27. Write down three clues that indicate Eckels's actions have had an effect on life in his present.
28. Identify three sensory images in lines 428-442 that describe Eckels's feeling that something is not right. Why does he compare people to chess pieces?
29. Compare the sign at the end of the story with the one in the beginning. How are they the same or different?
26. What does Eckels find on the bottom of his boots?
27. What does Eckels learn about the election?
28. What is the reader to infer that Travis does to Eckels at the end of the story?