

7.2 Nuances in characters' relationships

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Total: 12 marks

Objective

Build the skills to explain a **group as a force** 群体的作用.

You must be able to:

- state the CED's claim about groups and forces
- state what readers should examine about a character
- state what inclusion or exclusion reveals
- explain why a group's attitude is evidence about two parties

1 Worked examples

Study these first. Each one shows the method for a task used later.

■ Groups as characters

A group or force can function as a character. A village, a family, a jury or a crowd can act, want and oppose.

■ What to examine

When readers consider a character, they should examine how that character interacts with other characters, groups, or forces and what those interactions may indicate about the character.

■ Inclusion and exclusion

The relationship between a character and a group, including the inclusion or exclusion of that character, reveals the collective attitude of the group toward that character and possibly the character's attitude toward the group.

■ Two parties

An exclusion tells you what the group will not tolerate and what the character will not give up. Both are findings, and the CED's "possibly" marks the second as the less certain one.

2 Practice

2.1 State the CED's claim about groups and forces. [2]

2.2 State what inclusion or exclusion reveals. [2]

2.3 An exclusion is evidence about two parties.

(a) State what each half shows. [2]

(b) State what "possibly" marks. [1]

3 Exam-style questions

3.1 The CED says a group or force can [1]

- **A** function as a character
- **B** never appear
- **C** only be setting
- **D** replace the narrator

3.2 Exclusion reveals the collective attitude of the group and possibly [1]

- **A** the character's attitude toward the group
- **B** the author's opinions
- **C** the genre
- **D** the date

3.3 A village will not speak to a returning son.

(a) State what this reveals about the village. [1]

(b) Explain what it may reveal about the son.

[2]

4 Go further

- work through the **7.2 Nuances in characters' relationships** lesson on the **Learn** page;
- read the **Short Fiction III** section of the AP English Literature handout on the **Know** page.

Solutions

2.1 a group or force can function as a character, acting, wanting and opposing as a character does.

2.2 the collective attitude of the group toward the character and possibly the character's attitude toward the group.

2.3 (a) what the group will not tolerate; what the character will not give up. (b) that the second finding is less certain than the first.

3.1 A. as a character.

3.2 A. the character's attitude to the group.

3.3 (a) what it will not tolerate, and that it acts collectively. (b) possibly what he has refused to give up, though the CED's "possibly" means this needs separate evidence from his own words or actions.