

the treasure of lemon brown answer key

the treasure of lemon brown answer key provides a comprehensive understanding of Walter Dean Myers' short story, "The Treasure of Lemon Brown." This article explores the key elements of the story, including its plot, themes, characters, and literary devices, to offer a detailed answer key for students and educators alike. By analyzing the story's central messages, the article sheds light on the significance of Lemon Brown's treasure and how it relates to the protagonist's personal growth. Furthermore, it addresses common questions and provides explanations to enhance comprehension and critical thinking. This resource is designed to support academic success by supplying clear, authoritative insights into the story. The following sections will delve into the main aspects of the narrative, providing a structured guide for study and review.

- Plot Summary and Analysis
- Main Characters and Their Roles
- Themes and Symbols in the Story
- Important Literary Devices
- Common Questions and Answer Key

Plot Summary and Analysis

Overview of the Story

"The Treasure of Lemon Brown" is a short story written by Walter Dean Myers that centers around a young boy named Greg Ridley. The story begins with Greg facing difficulties at home and school, feeling disconnected from his father. One rainy evening, Greg encounters Lemon Brown, a homeless man living in an abandoned building. Through their interaction, Greg learns about Lemon Brown's past and the true meaning of treasure. The story unfolds as a meaningful exchange between two characters from different generations, highlighting themes of family, legacy, and self-worth.

Plot Development and Key Events

The plot progresses as Greg seeks refuge from his father's anger by hiding in an old tenement building. There, he meets Lemon Brown, who reveals his

history as a blues musician and shares the story of his son, who gave him a treasured harmonica. When some neighborhood thugs attempt to steal Lemon Brown's treasure, Greg helps defend it, leading to a newfound respect for Lemon Brown's life and values. This encounter prompts Greg to reconsider his relationship with his father and appreciate the importance of personal treasures beyond material wealth.

Main Characters and Their Roles

Greg Ridley

Greg Ridley is the protagonist, a teenage boy struggling with his father's disapproval and his own insecurities. His initial frustration and misunderstanding about his father's intentions set the stage for his character development. Through his interaction with Lemon Brown, Greg gains insight into the meaning of legacy and respect, which influences his attitude towards his family.

Lemon Brown

Lemon Brown is a former blues musician and the titular character who serves as a mentor figure to Greg. Despite his homeless status, Lemon Brown possesses a treasure of sentimental value—a harmonica and newspaper clippings from his son. His story introduces themes of sacrifice and the intangible nature of true wealth. Lemon Brown's wisdom and kindness profoundly impact Greg's perspective.

Supporting Characters

The story also features minor characters such as Greg's father, who represents authority and discipline, and the neighborhood thugs, who provide conflict and highlight the danger surrounding Lemon Brown's treasure. These characters help to emphasize the central themes and drive the narrative forward.

Themes and Symbols in the Story

The Meaning of Treasure

The treasure in the story symbolizes more than just material possessions; it represents memories, love, and legacy. Lemon Brown's harmonica and newspaper

clippings hold emotional significance, illustrating that true treasure is found in personal connections and experiences rather than wealth.

Family and Legacy

The story underscores the importance of family bonds and the legacy passed from one generation to another. Greg's evolving understanding of his father's intentions and Lemon Brown's story about his son emphasize respect and appreciation for family heritage.

Overcoming Fear and Prejudice

Greg's initial fear and judgment of Lemon Brown transform into respect and empathy. This theme highlights the idea of looking beyond appearances and societal labels to understand the intrinsic value of individuals.

List of Key Themes

- Value of intangible treasures
- Importance of family relationships
- Respect for the past and elders
- Personal growth and maturity
- Facing and overcoming adversity

Important Literary Devices

Symbolism

The harmonica and newspaper clippings symbolize Lemon Brown's connection to his son and his past achievements. These items serve as tangible representations of emotional treasure and legacy.

Conflict

The story contains both external conflict, such as the confrontation with the thugs, and internal conflict, seen in Greg's struggle with his feelings

toward his father. These conflicts drive the narrative and character development.

Dialogue

Dialogue between Greg and Lemon Brown reveals their personalities and helps convey the story's themes. Their conversations are essential in progressing the plot and deepening the story's emotional impact.

Imagery

The author uses vivid descriptions to create a mood of suspense and empathy throughout the story, enhancing the reader's engagement.

Common Questions and Answer Key

What is the significance of Lemon Brown's treasure?

Lemon Brown's treasure represents the love and memories he has for his son, rather than material wealth. It highlights the theme that true treasure lies in emotional bonds and personal history.

How does Greg's perception of his father change?

After meeting Lemon Brown and understanding the importance of legacy, Greg begins to see his father's concerns in a new light, recognizing that his father's strictness comes from care and a desire for Greg's success.

Why does Lemon Brown share his story with Greg?

Lemon Brown shares his story to impart wisdom and help Greg understand the value of non-material treasures. Their shared experience fosters mutual respect and personal growth for Greg.

What role do the thugs play in the story?

The thugs create external conflict that allows Greg to protect Lemon Brown's treasure, symbolizing Greg's newfound courage and respect for Lemon Brown's life and values.

List of Key Questions

1. What is the main theme of the story?
2. Describe the relationship between Greg and Lemon Brown.
3. How does the story illustrate the idea of legacy?
4. What lessons does Greg learn by the end of the story?
5. Why is the setting important to the story?

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the author of 'The Treasure of Lemon Brown'?

'The Treasure of Lemon Brown' was written by Walter Dean Myers.

What is the main theme of 'The Treasure of Lemon Brown'?

The main theme of 'The Treasure of Lemon Brown' is the value of personal and family history, as well as understanding and respecting others' experiences.

Who is the protagonist in 'The Treasure of Lemon Brown'?

The protagonist of the story is Greg Ridley, a young boy who meets Lemon Brown.

What is Lemon Brown's 'treasure' in the story?

Lemon Brown's treasure is a harmonica and newspaper clippings that remind him of his past as a blues musician and his connection to his son.

Why does Greg initially think Lemon Brown is a threat?

Greg initially thinks Lemon Brown is a threat because Lemon is a homeless man living in the abandoned building and appears mysterious and intimidating.

How does Greg's view of Lemon Brown change throughout the story?

Greg's view changes from fear and misunderstanding to respect and empathy as he learns about Lemon Brown's life and the significance of his treasure.

What lesson does Greg learn from Lemon Brown?

Greg learns that treasures are not always material wealth; they can be memories and connections that give life meaning.

How does the setting of the story contribute to its mood?

The setting in a dark, abandoned building creates a tense and mysterious mood that highlights the themes of fear, discovery, and understanding.

What role does Lemon Brown's past as a blues musician play in the story?

Lemon Brown's past as a blues musician symbolizes his identity and legacy, showing that his true treasure is his life story and the bond with his son.

Additional Resources

1. The Treasure of Lemon Brown by Walter Dean Myers - Study Guide

This study guide offers a comprehensive analysis of the short story "The Treasure of Lemon Brown." It includes chapter summaries, character breakdowns, and thematic discussions to help readers understand the story's deeper meanings. Ideal for students and educators, it provides quizzes and answer keys to reinforce learning.

2. Understanding Themes in The Treasure of Lemon Brown

This book explores the major themes presented in Walter Dean Myers' story, such as family, legacy, and courage. Through detailed essays and discussion questions, readers gain insight into how these themes relate to real-life situations. The book is designed for classroom use and includes an answer key for assignments.

3. Walter Dean Myers: A Literary Companion

This companion book delves into the works of Walter Dean Myers, with a special focus on "The Treasure of Lemon Brown." It covers Myers' life, writing style, and the social issues he addresses. Readers will find sample questions and answer keys to support their study of his stories.

4. Short Story Analysis: The Treasure of Lemon Brown

Offering a detailed breakdown of plot, characters, and symbolism, this

analytical guide helps readers interpret the story's message. It includes summaries, discussion questions, and answer keys for teachers and students to facilitate effective learning and classroom discussion.

5. *Exploring African American Literature: The Treasure of Lemon Brown and Beyond*

This book places "The Treasure of Lemon Brown" within the broader context of African American literature. It examines cultural significance, historical background, and literary techniques. Each chapter ends with review questions and an answer key to enhance comprehension.

6. *Character Studies in The Treasure of Lemon Brown*

Focused on character development, this book analyzes Lemon Brown and Greg Ridley in depth. It highlights their motivations, growth, and relationships. The included activities and answer keys make it an excellent resource for students studying character arcs.

7. *Teacher's Guide to The Treasure of Lemon Brown*

Designed for educators, this guide offers lesson plans, discussion prompts, and assessment tools related to the story. It includes reproducible worksheets and an answer key to streamline teaching and evaluation. The guide emphasizes critical thinking and student engagement.

8. *Literary Devices in The Treasure of Lemon Brown*

This book explores the use of literary devices such as symbolism, imagery, and dialogue in the story. Readers learn how these elements contribute to the narrative's impact. Practice questions with answer keys help solidify understanding.

9. *Connecting Generations: The Treasure of Lemon Brown and Family Legacy*

This book examines the theme of legacy and intergenerational relationships as portrayed in the story. It encourages readers to reflect on their own family histories and values. Discussion questions and an answer key support classroom and group activities.

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