

Teacher Guide

Grades 5–6

From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler

E. L. Konigsburg

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FROM THE MIXED-UP FILES OF MRS. BASIL E. FRANKWEILER

by
E. L. Konigsburg

Teacher Guide

Written by
Anne Troy

Note

The Dell Yearling paperback edition of the book was used to prepare this guide. The page references may differ in the hardcover or other paperback editions.

Please note: Please assess the appropriateness of this book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading and discussing it with your class.

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Skills and Strategies

Thinking

Brainstorming, visualizing,
evaluating

Literary Elements

Character development,
story elements, point of view

Comprehension

Predicting, sequencing,
comparison/contrast

Vocabulary

Defining, recognition

Listening/Speaking

Discussion, role play

Writing

Poetry, journaling,
description, narrative,
research, newspaper

Chapter Two — Pages 19-27

Vocabulary:

expenditures 27 emerged 27

Discussion Questions and Activities:

1. Who is telling this story? (Pages 3 and 19, Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler) Who is she? (We don't know yet.) List predictions.
2. Why was Claudia the leader on this adventure? What skill did she possess that made her a good leader?
3. Why was this chance funny? Find some examples.

page 20, "She was convinced that she would develop a medium-serious skin disease..."

page 21, "What did you expect him to pay for in: Traveler's checks?"

page 26, mailing box tops from Cornflake

4. What didn't Jamie know about the runaway plans?
 - where they could hide
 - how they were traveling to New York

Why do you suppose Claudia hasn't told Jim this information?

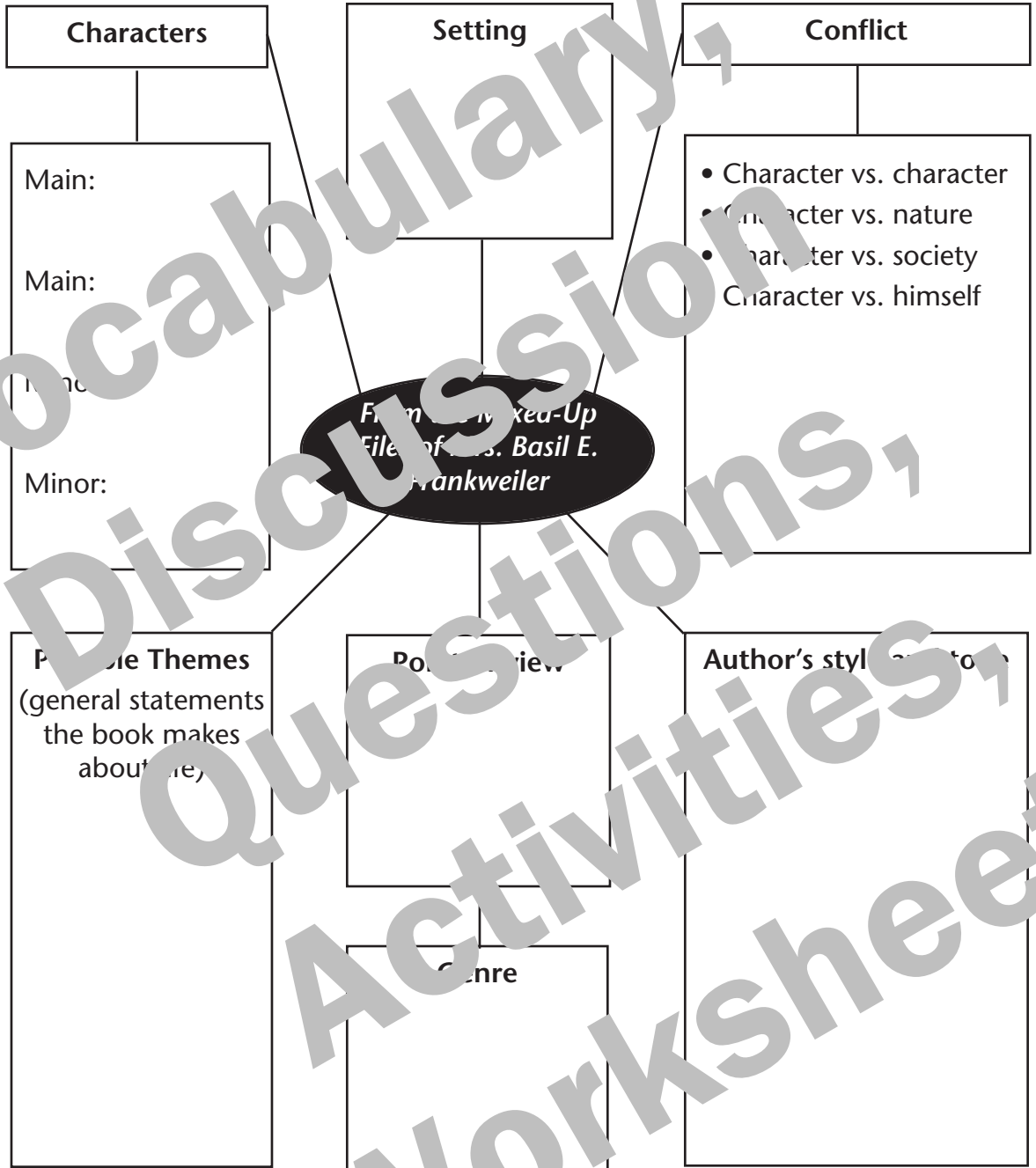
5. Why was having Jamie an important to Claudia? (page 20, his money, radio, and the courage of two Kinkaid's together)
6. Jamie had a problem carrying all his money. How would he have carried his money? How would you get the change converted to coins?
7. What do you think this statement on page 27 means: "Manhattan demanded the courage of at least two Kinkaid's"?

Prediction:

Where will the children hide at the Metropolitan Museum of Art?

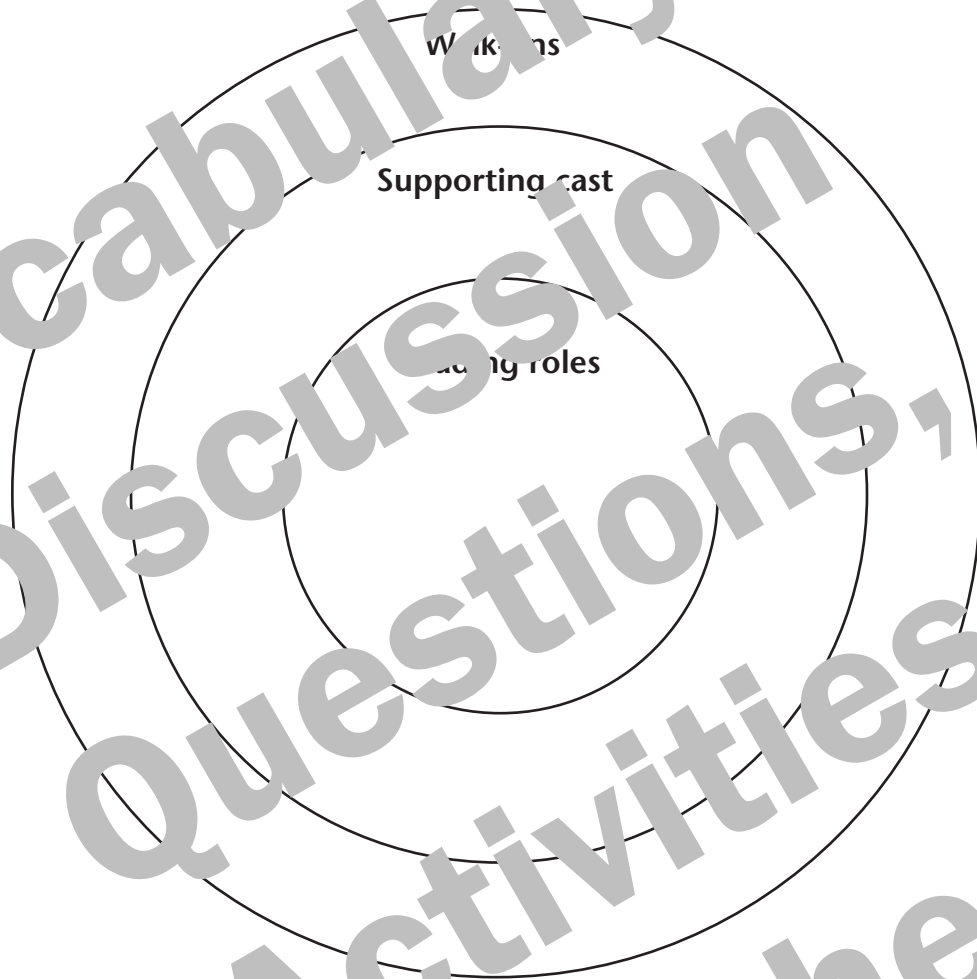
Writing Activity:

Describe the Metropolitan Museum of Art if you have been there. Otherwise, choose an art museum you have visited to describe.



Your Book Has Been Optioned for the Movies

1. You are the casting director. Who are the lead roles, supporting cast, and walk-ons? What kind of characters are they? What actors will fill the roles? How should they look? What acting abilities will they need?



2. Design costumes for the cast. Explain your choices.
3. Pick the music. Will you need background music or will you have musical "numbers"?
4. Design the set.
5. Identify and describe the props.
6. What will you title your movie? Why?