



7th Grade English

Literature **“from Mom & Me &** **Mom”**

Lessons Worksheets

TEXT QUESTIONS

from Mom & Me & Mom

Maya Angelou

DIRECTIONS: Respond to these questions. Use textual evidence to support your responses.

1. **Analyze Cause and Effect** How does Maya Angelou react to meeting her mother for the first time?

2. (a) **Make Inferences** Why do you think it is difficult for Angelou to be affectionate with her mother when they are reunited? (b) **Support** What details in the excerpt helped you make this inference?

3. **Contrast** Contrast the first reactions Angelou and her brother have to seeing their mother. (b) **Speculate** Why might Angelou and her brother have such different reactions?

4. **Interpret** In paragraph 46, Angelou says “My brother was gone, and he would never come back.” What do you think she means by this statement?

CONVENTIONS ▶ **INDEPENDENT AND DEPENDENT CLAUSES**

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A **clause** is a group of words with its own subject and verb. An **independent clause** expresses a complete thought and can stand alone as a sentence. A **dependent clause** has a subject and a verb, but it does not express a complete thought and cannot stand alone as a complete sentence.

The following sentence, which is inspired by the excerpt from *Mom & Me & Mom*, contains both an independent and dependent clause. The subject in each clause is underlined once, and the verb is underlined twice. The dependent clause appears in italics.

Mother played her records loudly when she was happy, *though the music saddened me.*

A dependent clause may appear either before or after the independent clause:

Though the music saddened me, Mother played her records loudly when she was happy.

A dependent clause often begins with one of the following words: *if, when, because, where, though, who, whom, which, or that.*

A. DIRECTIONS: In each sentence, underline the independent clause once and the dependent clause twice.

1. She said she didn't want to leave me without adult supervision, because I was a thirteen-year-old girl.
2. I followed the voice and I knew she had made a mistake, because the pretty little woman with red lips and high heels came running to my grandmother.
3. I may never be known as a philanthropist, though I certainly want to be known as charitable.

B. DIRECTIONS: For each item, combine the two sentences into one sentence that contains one independent clause and one dependent clause. In your sentences, begin the dependent clause with either the word *though* or *although*.

1. We went mountain biking. We could have gone kayaking.

2. I ordered chocolate ice cream. I thought about ordering strawberry.

from Mom & Me & Mom

Maya Angelou

Authors use descriptions and details to help a reader understand the people they are writing about. These details and descriptions help reveal character traits—the qualities that make people unique.

Characterization is the process that writers use to develop their descriptions of people. In **direct characterization**, an author directly states a person’s character traits. In **indirect characterization**, an author reveals a person’s character traits through the character’s words and actions, through other characters’ responses to him or her, and through the interactions of characters in the story. When encountering indirect characterization, readers must make *inferences*, or educated guesses, to determine character traits.

DIRECTIONS: Read paragraphs 45 and 46 of the excerpt from *Mom & Me & Mom*. Then, answer the questions below.

1. What does the reunion between Mother and Bailey reveal about Bailey? What does it reveal about Maya?

2. Which sentence in paragraphs 45 and 46 helps you understand that the reunion between Mother and Bailey has a powerful effect on Bailey?

3. What do you think Maya means when she says, “He saw his mother, his home, and then all his lonely birthdays were gone”?

CONCEPT VOCABULARY AND WORD STUDY**WORD LIST****charitable****philanthropist****supervision**

A. **DIRECTIONS:** In each of the following sentences, think about the meaning of the italicized word. Then, answer the questions.

1. True or false: A *charitable* person would never forgive someone for insulting him or her. Explain your answer.

2. Would it be shocking to discover that a *philanthropist* had been accused of stealing money from schools? Why or why not?

3. Why might a toy for children require adult *supervision*? Explain your answer.

B. **WORD STUDY:** The **Latin prefix *super-*** means “above,” “over,” or “beyond.” Rewrite each sentence, replacing the underlined section of the sentence with a word from the Word List.

WORD LIST**superhighway****superhero****superfan****superexpensive**

1. A person who loves a team above all else will be very disappointed when his or her team loses.

2. A road that is far beyond the size of other roads will be able to carry much more traffic than local roads.

3. It is impossible for some people to buy something that is priced far above regular prices.

4. Some extremely popular movies feature a character who does good deeds and has powers far beyond ordinary people.

WORD STUDY ➤ **LATIN PREFIX: *SUPER-***

A *prefix* is a word part added to the beginning of a word. A prefix helps give a word its meaning. The **Latin prefix *super-*** means “above,” “over,” or “beyond.” For example, a fictional hero with a *superpower* has powers and abilities that are “above” or “beyond” those of a regular person. The prefix *super-* appears in many common English words.

A. DIRECTIONS: Choose the word that best completes the sentence. Write the letter of the correct answer on the line. Use a dictionary if necessary.

1. ____ The doctor reported that Jamal’s injuries are _____, and therefore won’t require stitches.
 - a. superseded
 - b. superlative
 - c. superficial

2. ____ Anything traveling above 768 miles per hour is considered to be _____.
 - a. supersonic
 - b. superficial
 - c. supersized

3. ____ It took _____ effort, but they were able to finish repairing the bridge in less time than had been expected.
 - a. supersaturated
 - b. superhuman
 - c. supernova

4. ____ Karen is _____ and won’t cross the path of a black cat.
 - a. supersensitive
 - b. superior
 - c. superstitious

B. DIRECTIONS: Add the prefix *super-* to the words below. Then, use each word in a sentence. Consult a dictionary if necessary.

1.highway: _____

2.star: _____

WORD STUDY ➤ **LATIN PREFIX: *SUPER-***

A. **DIRECTIONS:** Complete each sentence with a word from the following word list.

superficial	superimpose	superintendent
superlative	supernatural	

1. On her trip to Paris, Ms. Mehta visited art museums and enjoyed some _____ French cuisine.
2. Rhonda used a new software program to _____ text onto her photos.
3. All of the magician's tricks are said to be illusions, and he does not make the claim that his tricks have any _____ element.
4. After conducting interviews with several candidates, the _____ of the school system hired a new principal for our school.
5. Jackson had an accident on his skateboard, but fortunately his injuries were just _____ scrapes and cuts.

B. **DIRECTIONS:** Add the prefix *super-* to the words below. Then, use each word in an original sentence.

1. hero

2. market

3. vision
