**Themes Worksheet**

**Directions**: Read each short story and answer the questions:

**I-**Even though they were sisters, Suzie and June were nothing alike. If Suzie wanted to jump rope, June wanted to play hopscotch. If June wanted to watch soap operas, Suzie wanted to watch talk shows. Tensions rose to the point that the girls could no longer stand one another’s company. It seemed that they had nothing in common, until the day that progress reports went home. On the bus the girls were startled by how upset the other looked. They realized that they were both failing a subject. Suzie was failing math and June was failing reading. Since both girls wanted to pass their classes, they agreed to help one another. So after school for the next few weeks, Suzie tutored June in reading and then June tutored Suzie in math. By the time report cards were distributed, Suzie and June were passing all their classes. The girls were delighted, but thei rmother was happiest of all. Not just because her daughters had passed their classes, but because they learned to be good sisters.

1. **What is the theme of this story?**

**Possible themes**: 1. Two heads are better than one

 2.It is better to work together

 3. Our differences help us learn from each other.

1. **What happens in the story that leads you to believe this?**

**Justification:** Despite having different characters and personalities, June and Suzie help one another by learning to work together.

**II-**All Victor ever wanted to do with his life was be a singer. He didn't pay attention in school, and he spent all his time at home listening to music and impersonating his idols. His mother tried toteach him the value of getting an education and having a backup plan. But Victor would respondthe same way every time, "Mom, I won't need to know any of that boring old stuff when I'mfamous. You'll see." There was one major problem with Victor's plan: he wasn't any good atsinging. Victor enjoyed singing so much that he didn't notice the pained look on the faces ofthose who endured his singing. Some lied to him and said they liked his singing. Other people told him to find something else to do with his life. Victor accused those people of being "jealoushaters" and ignored their advice. Soon Victor dropped out of high school to focus on his musiccareer. The years passed and the doors never opened.

1. **What is the theme of this story?**

**…………………………………………………………………………………………………..**

1. **What happens in the story that leads you to believe this?**

**……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………...**

**III-**Katie Clean invited Messy Missy to her house to work on their biology project, but Katie Clean had no idea what a visit from Messy Missy entailed. First of all, it was raining and Messy Missy neither bothered to take her boots off nor thoroughly wiped them on the doormat. Then Messy Missy ate a bag of hot chips on Katie Clean’s white bedspread without asking, and Messy Missy is a sloppy eater, so hot chip powder got all over the bedspread. Katie Clean tried to be polite and ignore Messy Missy’s sloppy behavior, but then Messy Missy threw her chip wrapper on the floor. Offended, Katie Clean pretended that she was sick and asked Messy Missy to leave. The next day Katie Clean asked the teacher if she could work by herself. After explaining her situation, the teacher allowed Katie to work alone. Messy Missy would have finished the assignment by herself, but she spilled grape soda all over her assignment.

1. **What is the theme of this story?**

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1. **What happens in the story that leads you to believe this?**

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