

## LESSON NOTES 1

School: Sangam SKM College – Nadi

Year: 13

Subject: English

Strand	Reading and viewing
Sub Strand	Listening and Speaking
Content learning outcome	Appreciate and analyse short stories. Make connections between the text and real life situations through themes in the given short story. Identify elements in short stories. Appreciate moral lessons in short stories.

### Short Stories

#### Theme 1: Love

#### Short Story 1: Harry By Rosemary Timperley

#### Setting and Background

This story is set in London, and for the most part, it takes place during summer, when the sun is shining and the roses are in full bloom. The story focuses mainly on the James family, whose home is a loving one but this is overshadowed by something ‘abnormal’. When Christine turns five and meets the ghost ‘Harry.’ The atmosphere created by the story is one of eeriness and full of suspense.

It is set in: James residence, Dr. Webster’s surgery, James apartment building, Adoption Centre and School

#### Significance of the title

- The name itself has a deeper meaning than one might think.
- A "Harry" can be a brother, imaginary friend, son, pet, anything, it is a simple word that can be seen in many ways.

#### Summary

- This story is unlike other ghost stories because it does not take place in the dead of night, rather it takes place in bright sunlight and this makes it more frightening.
- A little girl, Christine, makes an imaginary friend [Harry] on a hot beautiful summer day in their garden. The mother instinctively realizes that there is something just not quite right about this friendship, despite her husband and doctor telling her that her fears are unfounded.
- The mother decides to do her own research about Christine’s background and discovers the tragic story of her adopted daughter’s family. As she returns to pick up Christine from school, the teacher informs her that her brother Harry had already taken her home. Christine was never heard from again.

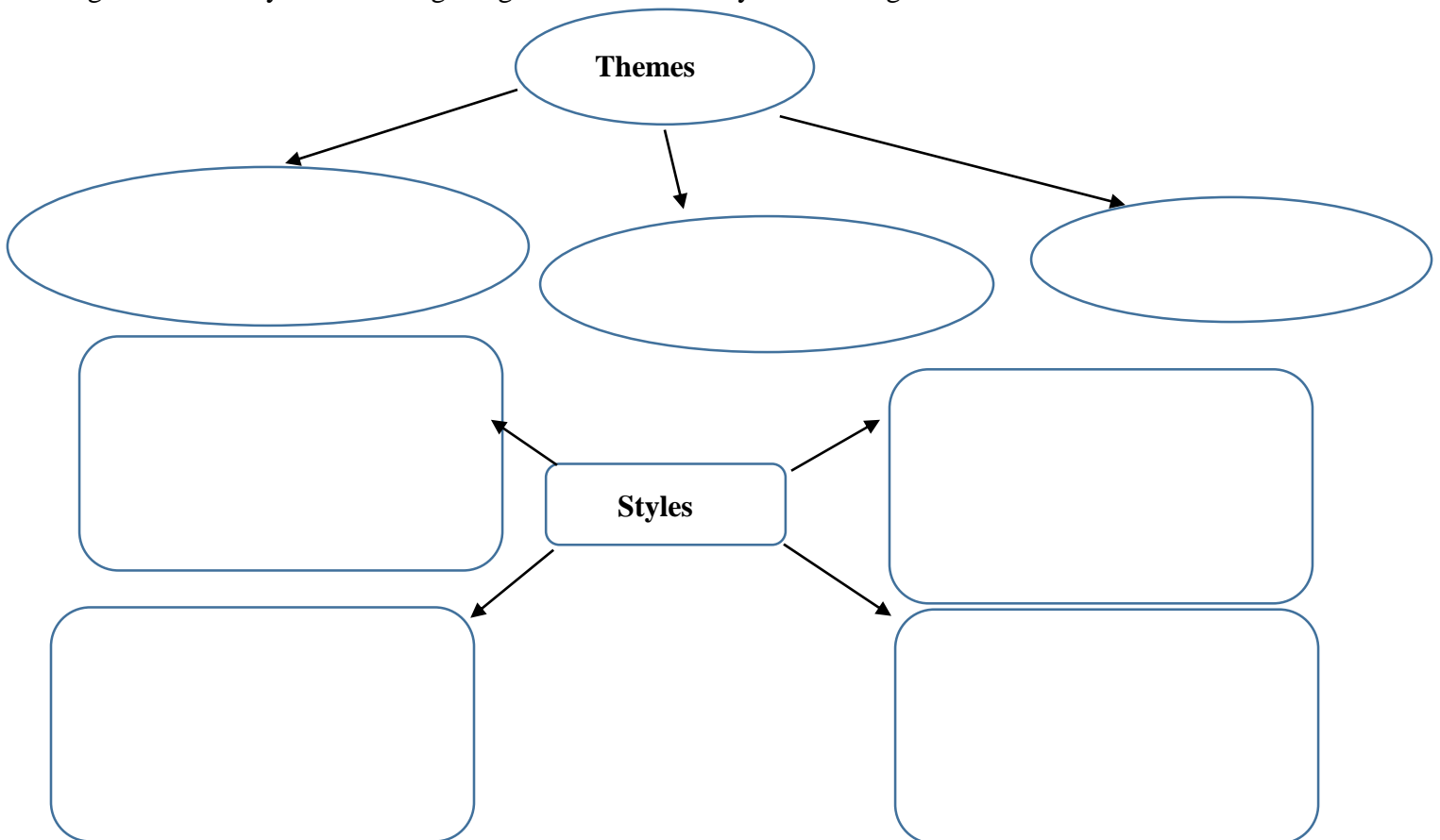
#### Characters

- Christine– nicknamed Chris
- 5 year old red-haired and blue-eyed girl
- Makes friends with a ghost (or he with her) and becomes rather attached to him.
- Real parents were dirt poor and she was born in a poor part of London
- Is able to communicate with Harry, whose presence is a supernatural association. ***“Yes I am Christine, Oh, but they are my mummy and daddy”.***
- She is very much devoted to Harry – her brother. ***For e.g. “I hoped you would come because I like you, can Harry come too”.***

- Mrs. James-is the narrator and Christine’s adoptive mother
  - Treats and loves Chris as her own daughter. Kind, caring and very understanding person. For .e.g. **“It’s just I feel extra responsible for her”. More so than if I were her real mother”**.
  - Is fearful of her daughter’s friendship with Harry
  - Under so much pressure because of this odd relationship – waking nightmares
  - Unable to freely voice her fears to her husband, so she decides to do her own investigation
  - Fearful for her daughter’s safety and security.
- Jim
  - Christine’s adoptive father, he loves his daughter
  - Type of person who believes that everything has a physical and rational explanation
  - Scoffs at his wife’s fears
- Harry
  - When he was alive, he adored his baby sister
  - Saved her but tragically lost his own in the process
  - Always got his way, very determined when alive (and perhaps as a ghost too)
  - Red-haired tall 14 year old boy
  - As a ghost, he is Chris’s constant companion and confidante
  - Loves Chris so much (seems obsessed) wants to take Chris home with him

**Activity**

Read the short story Harry notes from pages 52 – 55 [Year 13 English Communication] and fill in the flow diagrams below by summarizing the given themes and style of writing.



## LESSON NOTES 3

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### Short Stories

#### Theme 1: Love

#### Short Story 2: The Girl Who Had Everything By: Ellen Conford

#### Setting and Background

- The story takes place in a school setting that is it starts with primary school and ends at high school.
- The activities are all related to the college. For e.g. cheer leading, basketball, parties etc.
- The setting does not play a major role since the school setting can be replaced with some other setting, for example; a workplace.

#### Synopsis

- Diane is a spoiled child of the family, expecting everything to be done her own way.
- She expected her parents to fulfill her every wish and this expectation continued till she reaches seventh grade.
- This is when she falls in love.
- Being so popular, beautifully attractive and the nurse arising power of her hazel eyes, Diane wins the heart of many boys.
- After going out with many popular boys , she falls for Paul.
- Unexpectedly, things did not go right for her this time. She realizes that she has fallen in love but at a friend’s party. Paul dump her for a quiet, shy and mousy little girl Miranda Hull.
- This incident becomes the talk of the tongue and the readers are made aware of the fact that Diane was not a girl who had everything for she did not have the things she deserved the most in her life that is TRUE LOVE.

#### Character Study

##### 1. Diane

- She was overconfident. For e.g. *“Most boys are so shy, they are relieved if a girl does all the talking”, How could Paul go from a girl like me! I mean in all modesty – from a girl like me to a girl like her”.*
- Besides this, she was very spoiled especially by her parents and also from all the attention that she got from the boys. For e.g. *taking it granted that for boys would treat each other trying to sit behind her in the school bus, used their lunch money to buy her candy bars, was the only child of her parents and her parents thought she was the greatest thing.*
- She believes she was above all others as well as being a slog, arrogant, and having a negative opinion of others.
- Was too proud of her. For e.g. when the narrator says *“This happens to everybody” Diane replied “Not to me”. They don’t”.*
- Diane was also wonderful, inspired and a non –stop talker.
- A self centered person. For e.g. *“She talks almost exclusively about herself”.*

## **2. The Narrator – “I”**

- Is the main character in the story.
- She is a level headed young person who is also very shy when she went on a date.
- The narrator is an intelligent character and a down to earth teenager, who neither shows off nor is fashionable and self centered like Diane.
- She had more common sense than Diane because she took everything at a slow pace, not wanting to rush into things without thinking.
- The narrator didn't wither dig things impulsively or got pretty things when compared to Diane.
- She was a close friend of Diane and cared for her and helped her whenever Diane was in problem.
- The narrator and Diane had been friends for so long but still they had nothing in common. They were friends because of habit – Habit to be together.
- She was overjoyed for Miranda Hull rather than being sad for Diane.

## **3. Miranda Hull (A Minor Character)**

- Very little of her personality is known except for a few things.
- One obvious characteristic is that she is a good listener, may be a reason why Paul sits with her in the party where she did not interrupt him when he was talking for two hours.
- She is probably very similar to the narrator.
- She must be a very shy person because she was sitting in the corner and it could be assumed that she could not bring a date for the party.

## **4. Paul**

- He is one of the most popular boys in school and a good basketball player.
- He goes out with Diane and then dumps her for Miranda Hull.
- Paul is coward because he did not give a reason to Diane for dumping her.

## **Activity Questions**

**1. Why is Diane described as ‘the girl who had everything’?**

**2. Diane and the girl who tells the story are complete opposites. Why do they remain friends?**

**3. Why does Paul drop Diane?**

**4. Why does the narrator feel so happy for Miranda Hull?**

**5. Do you find this story amusing? Yes**

**Pick out some humorous moments and explain why they entertain you.**

**Reference: English Communication Year 13 Pages 56 - 58**

## LESSON NOTES 2

**School: Sangam SKM College – Nadi**

**Year: 13**

**Subject: English**

Strand	Writing and Shaping
Sub Strand	Know the basic structure of Writing a Letter to the Editor
Content learning outcome	Develop writing skills Plan and write a Letter to the Editor

Write a letter to the Editor of a local newspaper on the following issue:

Earth Hour: A must to be observed by everyone.

### **Sample**

Lot 7

Kalokalo

Suva

30 th June 2021

The Editor

The Fiji Times Limited

P O Box 1167

Suva

Dear Sir

Re: Earth Hour: A must to be observed

As a concerned citizen of Fiji I would like to express my views on Earth Hour: A must to be observed by everyone.

Last Saturday (March 25) we joined countries around the globe in observing Earth Hour, a worldwide movement organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF). The event here was led by our Climate Champion, Inia Seruiratu, the Minister for Agriculture, Rural Development and National Disaster Management. His message was that we must act with urgency to save our planet. It is particularly significant this year for us because of the leading roles we playing in the two major international events.

In addition, One thing that we cannot avoid is the fact that we are at the mercy of what nature throws at us. We have no control over that. But what we do have control over is our contribution to ensure that we protect and preserve our environment as best as we possibly can. Our oceans and their ecosystems are under threat by indiscriminate dumping of rubbish and over fishing. Pollution continues to harm them. It is slowly strangling them.

Moreover, over fishing caused by the commercial demand continues to be a major threat. A common story that one hears is that people have to travel further out to sea to catch fish. Gone were the days when they were able to catch fish near their homes.

In Fiji we can show the rest of the world that we are serious about climate by taking some concrete steps. We can keep our environment clean by not littering. We sort of go hot and cold, not realizing that every time we litter we threaten our environment and the health of our people. We still see many vehicles, particularly some buses and trucks belching out thick smoke when they accelerate. Some of our factories are equally guilty.

Finally, our survival and the sustainability of our resources depend on how serious we take climate change.

Yours faithfully

Signature

Name

**Question**

Write a letter to the Editor highlighting your views on how people of Fiji can help the stop the spread of Covid 19 transmission in the community.