



Analyzing Theme Development

Today's Standard

9-10.RL.2 - Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Analyzing themes in novels and movies; Interpreting central ideas in historical texts; Evaluating themes in news articles; Understanding themes in poetry; Discussing themes in book clubs

Today I Learned

Today, we learned how to find the main idea or theme in a story and how it changes throughout the story. We also learned how to summarize the story without adding our own opinions.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes, kids think that a theme is just one word, but it's actually a full idea. They might also think that every detail in a story is important for the theme, but only some details really help to show the theme.

Quiz Me

- What is a theme?
- Can you find the main idea in this story?
- What details help show the theme?
- Can you tell me what happened in the story without adding your opinion?
- Why is the theme important?

Help Me

A theme is like the big idea or lesson in a story. For example, in real life, we might learn about friendship by seeing how friends help each other. In stories, we look for details that show this big idea. Understanding themes helps us learn important lessons from the stories we read.