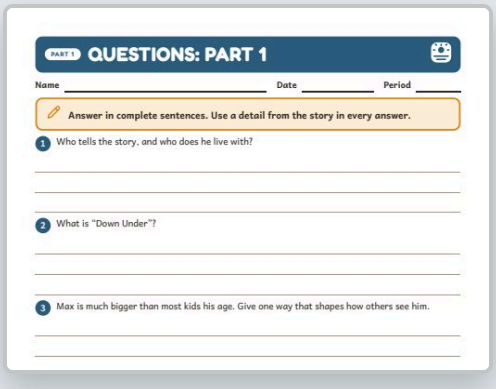
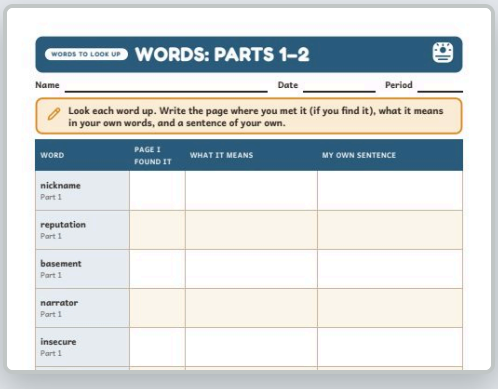
6TH–8TH · ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

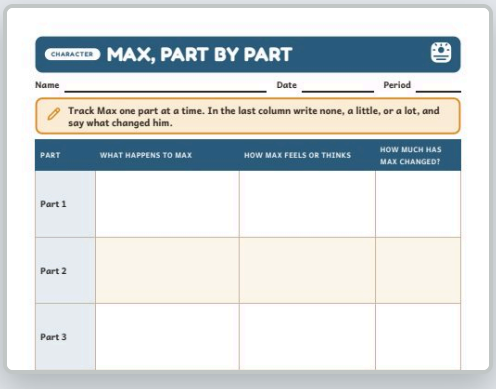
NOVEL STUDY

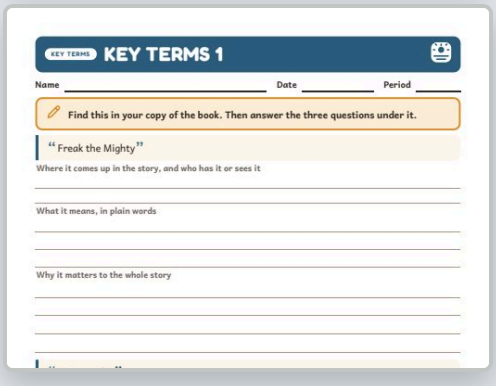
FREAK THE MIGHTY NOVEL STUDY

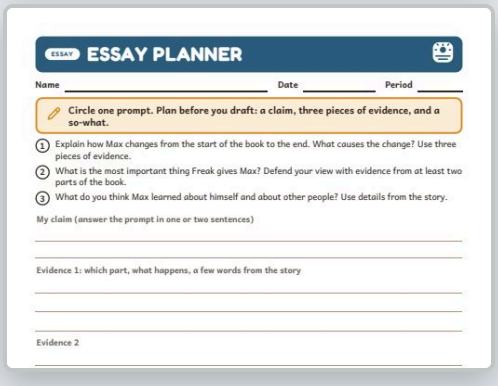
For use with the novel by Rodman Philbrick: five questions for each of 6 parts of the story, words to look up, a Max tracker, key terms, themes and a planned essay. Answer keys, a reading log and a class grid. Type into the fields or print. PDF. Book not included.

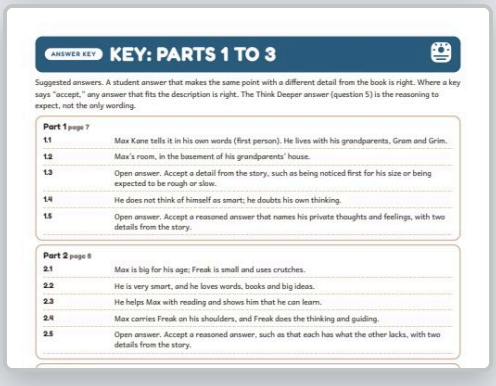












36 Pages · 30 Questions · 30 Words · 6 Keys

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PREVIEW

READING PLAN

THE SIX PARTS AT A GLANCE

The whole book on one page: what happens in each part, the study pages that go with it, and a blank for the chapters and dates your class will use.

PART	WHAT HAPPENS	PAGES	CHAPTERS IN MY EDITION, AND DATES
Part 1	Max Kane, who tells the story, describes his life with his grandparents Gram and Grim and the way he sees himself.	6, 7	
Part 2	Max meets Freak, a small, quick-thinking boy who uses crutches, and the two begin to spend time together.	6, 8	
Part 3	Together the boys become Freak the Mighty and set out on quests, and Max begins to see himself differently.	9, 10	
Part 4	Max's fear of his father, Kenny Kane, known as Killer Kane, and of becoming like him, moves to the center of the story.	9, 11	
Part 5	Freak's health grows worse, and the friends face what that means for them.	12, 13	
Part 6	Freak dies, and Max writes down the story of their friendship.	12, 14	

PREVIEW

Check against your edition

The story is cut into six parts by what happens, because chapter numbers differ by edition. Write the chapters for each part in the last column. Where a question is open, the key says what a good answer does. The book deals plainly with a mother's death, a father in prison for causing it, and a friend's serious illness and death; preview them for your class.

OUR CLASS'S OWN EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWERS (YOUR WORDING)

WORDS TO LOOK UP

WORDS: PARTS 1–2

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Look each word up. Write the page where you met it (if you find it), what it means in your own words, and a sentence of your own.

WORD	PAGE I FOUND IT	WHAT IT MEANS	MY OWN SENTENCE
nickname Part 1			
reputation Part 1			
basement Part 1			
narrator Part 1			
insecure Part 1			
crutches Part 2			
brilliant Part 2			
tutor Part 2			
partnership Part 2			
unusual Part 2			

PREVIEW

PART 2 QUESTIONS: PART 2

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Answer in complete sentences. Use a detail from the story in every answer.

1. How do Max and Freak look different from each other?

2. What is Freak like on the inside? Name two things.

3. How does Freak help Max with schoolwork?

4. How do Max and Freak work together to get around?

5. THINK DEEPER Two very different boys become friends. Why do you think it works? Give two reasons.

PREVIEW

PART 3 QUESTIONS: PART 3

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Answer in complete sentences. Use a detail from the story in every answer.

1. Why do the boys call themselves "Freak the Mighty"?

2. What is a quest, in Freak's way of thinking?

3. How does Max feel when he is with Freak? Give one detail.

4. Why do you think Freak wants to go on quests at all?

5. THINK DEEPER A friendship can change both people. How has Max changed since he met Freak? Give two details.

PREVIEW

WORDS TO LOOK UP

WORDS: PARTS 5–6

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Look each word up. Write the page where you met it (if you find it), what it means in your own words, and a sentence of your own.

WORD	PAGE I FOUND IT	WHAT IT MEANS	MY OWN SENTENCE
illness Part 5			
fragile Part 5			
devoted Part 5			
anxious Part 5			
determined Part 5			
grief Part 6			
memory Part 6			
legacy Part 6			
courage Part 6			
mourn Part 6			

PREVIEW

PART 6 QUESTIONS: PART 6

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Answer in complete sentences. Use a detail from the story in every answer.

1. What happens to Freak at the end of the book?

2. What does Freak give Max to write in, and what does he want Max to do?

3. Whose words are we reading, and why did he write them?

4. What does Max learn about himself by the end?

5. THINK DEEPER Which idea matters most in this book: friendship, courage or being yourself? Give two details.

PREVIEW

CHARACTER

THE PEOPLE IN MAX'S STORY

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Every person in Max's story shows something. Write what each one does, then what it shows.

CHARACTER	WHAT THEY SAY OR DO	WHAT THEY SHOW MAX, OR THE READER
Max Kane the narrator, a big boy who doubts himself		
Freak Max's small, very smart friend		
Gram Max's grandmother		
Grim Max's grandfather		
Loretta Lee a girl the boys meet in the story		
Kenny Kane Max's father, called Killer Kane		

PREVIEW

KEY TERMS

KEY TERMS 2

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Find this in your copy of the book. Then answer the three questions under it.

“Quests”

Where it comes up in the story, and who has it or sees it

What it means, in plain words

Why it matters to the whole story

“Killer Kane”

Where it comes up in the story, and who has it or sees it

What it means, in plain words

Why it matters to the whole story

PREVIEW

WRITING

SENTENCE STARTERS

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Use these when you write about the story. Fill the blank with your own idea and a detail from the text.

Making a claim

In *Freak the Mighty*, the author shows that _____.

Max changes most when _____.

The most important relationship in the story is _____ because _____.

Bringing in evidence

In the part where _____, Max _____.

For example, when _____,

The author describes _____ as _____, which _____.

Explaining the evidence

This shows that _____.

This matters because _____.

Here the author wants the reader to _____.

Then and now

At the start Max _____, but by the end he _____.

At first _____; later _____.

Ending

In the end, _____.

The book's message still _____ because _____.

Try two starters here

PREVIEW

ESSAY DRAFT

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Write your draft here. Start with your claim. Use the sentence starters if you get stuck.

Title _____

PREVIEW

ANSWER KEY KEY: PARTS 4 TO 6

Suggested answers. A student answer that makes the same point with a different detail from the book is right. Where a key says "accept," any answer that fits the description is right. The Think Deeper answer (question 5) is the reasoning to expect, not the only wording.

Part 4 page 11

4.1	Max's father, Kenny Kane, who went to prison for killing Max's mother.
4.2	That he will turn out like his father, or that other people will think he already is like him.
4.3	They raise him and give him a home.
4.4	Open answer. Accept an answer that says people may see him as dangerous because of his father, with a detail from the story.
4.5	Open answer. Accept a clear position on whether Max must be like his father, backed by two details from the story.

Part 5 page 13

5.1	His health grows worse; he becomes seriously ill.
5.2	Open answer. Accept an answer that shows Max staying close to his friend, with a detail from the story.
5.3	Open answer. Accept a reasoned answer about fear of losing a friend, with a detail from the story.
5.4	Open answer. Accept an answer that compares how the friends spend time before and now, with a detail.
5.5	Open answer. Accept an answer that goes beyond strength of body, such as caring, staying and facing hard things, with two details.

Part 6 page 14

6.1	He dies.
6.2	A book with blank pages; he wants Max to write down their story.
6.3	Max's words. He wrote the story to remember Freak and their friendship.
6.4	Open answer. Accept an answer such as that he is capable, that he is not his father, or that he can think and write, with a detail.
6.5	Open answer. Accept a clear choice with two details from different parts of the story.

NOTES FOR THESE PARTS, GRADING REMINDERS (YOUR WORDING)

PREVIEW

ANSWER KEY KEY: PEOPLE AND THEMES

What to expect on the people and theme pages. Open pages: any detail from the book that fits is right.

The People in Max's Story page 16

Max Kane	The narrator. Starts out big, quiet and unsure of his own mind; grows more confident through his friendship with Freak, and writes the story himself.
Freak	Small, very smart and full of ideas and quests. He helps Max with reading and makes Max see himself differently.
Gram	Max's grandmother. She and Grim raise Max and give him a home.
Grim	Max's grandfather. He and Gram raise Max and give him a home.
Loretta Lee	A character the boys meet. Accept any accurate detail about what she says or does and how the boys react to her.
Kenny Kane	Max's father, Kenny Kane, known as Killer Kane. He went to prison for killing Max's mother, and Max fears being like him.

Themes: evidence to expect page 19

Friendship	Max and Freak: Freak has the mind and Max has the strength, and each makes the other braver.
Judging by appearances	Max and Freak: how others see a big boy and a small boy with crutches, and who each one really is.
Family and fear	Max and Killer Kane: Max fears he will turn out like his father, and the story shows that he can choose who he is.
Courage and loss	Facing Killer Kane, Freak's illness and Freak's death: Max keeps going and writes the story.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS I WILL ADD FOR THE PEOPLE AND THEMES (YOUR WORDING)

PREVIEW

ANSWER KEY KEY: WORDS

Plain meanings for all 30 words, in the order they appear.

WORD	PART	MEANING
nickname	1	a name used instead of a person's real name
reputation	1	what people generally think about someone
basement	1	the part of a building below the ground floor
narrator	1	the person who tells a story
insecure	1	not confident; unsure of yourself
crutches	2	sticks that support a person who has trouble walking
brilliant	2	extremely smart or clever
tutor	2	a person who teaches one student privately
partnership	2	a relationship where people work together
unusual	2	different from what is normal or expected
quest	3	a long search or journey for something important
knight	3	a warrior in the old stories who serves a cause
adventure	3	an exciting or unusual experience
loyalty	3	staying faithful to a friend or a cause
imagination	3	the ability to picture things that are not there

WORD	PART	MEANING
prison	4	a place where people are kept as punishment for a crime
violent	4	using force to hurt or damage
inherit	4	to receive a quality or trait from a parent
suspicious	4	feeling that something is not right
guardian	4	a person who takes care of and protects another
illness	5	a condition that makes a person sick
fragile	5	easily broken or harmed
devoted	5	very loyal and caring toward someone
anxious	5	worried and uneasy
determined	5	firmly decided not to give up
grief	6	deep sadness, especially after a loss
memory	6	something remembered from the past
legacy	6	what a person leaves behind for others
courage	6	being able to act even when you are afraid
mourn	6	to feel and show sadness after a death

PREVIEW

Using the word pages

- The words are for talking about each part's events and ideas. They may or may not appear in your edition; students write the page where they met a word only if they do.
- The "What it means" column is in the student's own words; this key is the plain meaning to check against, not the wording to require.
- A sentence that uses the word correctly in a new setting counts; a sentence that copies the meaning does not.

CLASS GRID

CLASS PROGRESS GRID

CLASS OR PERIOD

MONTH

STUDENT	BEFORE	PT. 1	PT. 2	PT. 3	PT. 4	PT. 5	PT. 6	ESSAY

PREVIEW

How to fill this in

One row per student. In a part column write the question score (of 5) once that part's page is in. Before and Essay are check marks: one glance down a column shows who is behind.

Grouping for small-group time

Students with low question scores on two parts in a row usually need the word page first and the part read aloud. Students who finish early start the Max tracker (page 15) or a key term page (page 17).

FAMILY PAGE

READING A NOVEL AT HOME

STUDENT FROM DATE

We are reading a novel in class, two parts at a time. Here is one question to talk about at home after each pair of parts, and room to write what was said.

TALK ABOUT IT AFTER…	WHAT WE SAID AT HOME
Parts 1–2: Max and Freak look very different and become friends. Has someone surprised you by being a good friend?	
Parts 3–4: Max is afraid he will turn out like his father. Does a person have to be like their family? Why or why not?	
Parts 5–6: Freak gives Max a book to write the story of their friendship. If you wrote about a friend, what would you want to say?	

Three ways to help at home

- Ask your student to retell what happened in the part in two or three sentences before you talk.
- When they give an opinion, ask: "What in the book makes you think that?"
- The book includes a parent's death, a father in prison and a friend's serious illness and death; ask how the part made your student feel.

OUR READING SCHEDULE AND WHAT IS DUE (TEACHER'S WORDING)

NOTE FROM THE TEACHER

NOTE FROM HOME

PREVIEW

ORGANIZER

BINDER COVER

Slide this into the front of a binder or folder. The divider tabs and a spine label to cut out are on the next page.

FOR USE WITH THE NOVEL BY RODMAN PHILBRICK

FREAK THE MIGHTY

Novel Study · Six Parts

STUDENT _____ TEACHER _____ CLASS OR PERIOD _____

PREVIEW