**Motif: Mouth**

Skim the following pages for the place where “mouths” appear (like Melinda’s physical mouth, lips, tongue, etc.) Then fill out the chart accordingly.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Page # | What does the text actually *say* about “mouth”? Write down a direct quote.  | What is Melinda feeling? What else is happening? |
| 9 |  |  |
| 16 |  |  |
| 27 |  |  |
| 39 |  |  |
| 45 |  |  |
| 50 |  |  |
| 82 |  |  |
| 194 |  |  |

What might Melinda’s mouth represent or symbolize?

What theme does Anderson develop through the use of this motif? (Remember theme = topic + what about the topic.)

**Motif: Mirrors**

Skim the following pages for the place where “mirrors” appear (actual mirrors in Melinda’s house, school, stores, etc.) Then fill out the chart accordingly.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Page # | What does the text actually *say* about “mirrors”? Write down a direct quote.  | What is Melinda feeling? What else is happening? |
| 16 |  |  |
| 45 |  |  |
| 50 |  |  |
| 82 |  |  |
| 123-25 |  |  |
| 136 |  |  |

What might mirrors represent or symbolize?

What is a theme Anderson might be conveying through the use of this motif? (Remember theme = topic + what about the topic.)

**Motif/Symbol: Tree**

Skim the following pages for the place where “trees” appear (like Melinda’s art project, or just trees she notices in the story too)Then fill out the chart accordingly.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Page # | What does the text actually *say* about “tree”? Write down a direct quote.  | What is Melinda feeling? What else is happening? |
| 12 |  |  |
| 63 |  |  |
| 78 |  |  |
| 103 |  |  |
| 118-19 |  |  |
| 146 |  |  |
| 152-53 |  |  |
| 187 |  |  |
| 196-98 |  |  |

What might trees represent or symbolize?

What is a theme Anderson might be conveying through the use of this motif? (Remember theme = topic + what about the topic.)

**Motif/Symbol: Mascots**

Skim the following pages for the place where “mascots” appear (like when the Merrywhether High Mascot changes) Then fill out the chart accordingly.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Page # | What does the text actually *say* about “mascots”? Write down a direct quote.  | What is Melinda feeling? What else is happening? |
| 4 |  |  |
| 26 |  |  |
| 49 |  |  |
| 69 |  |  |
| 95 |  |  |
| 141 |  |  |

What do mascots represent? (Make a list of things)

Why did Anderson purposefully have the mascot change throughout *Speak?* What bigger idea does this represent?

Based on this motif/symbol, what is a theme of this novel? (Remember theme = topic + what about the topic.)