

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PABLO CASALS MIDDLE SCHOOL 181

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Dear Parent/Guardian:

We would like to take this time to welcome you and your child to the **Pablo Casals Middle School 181 Community!** In order to assist your child in preparing for the upcoming school year, we have created the **MS 181 6th Grade Literacy Packet**. The reading comprehension activities in this packet are based upon two required novels:

Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Walk Two Moons by Sharon Creech

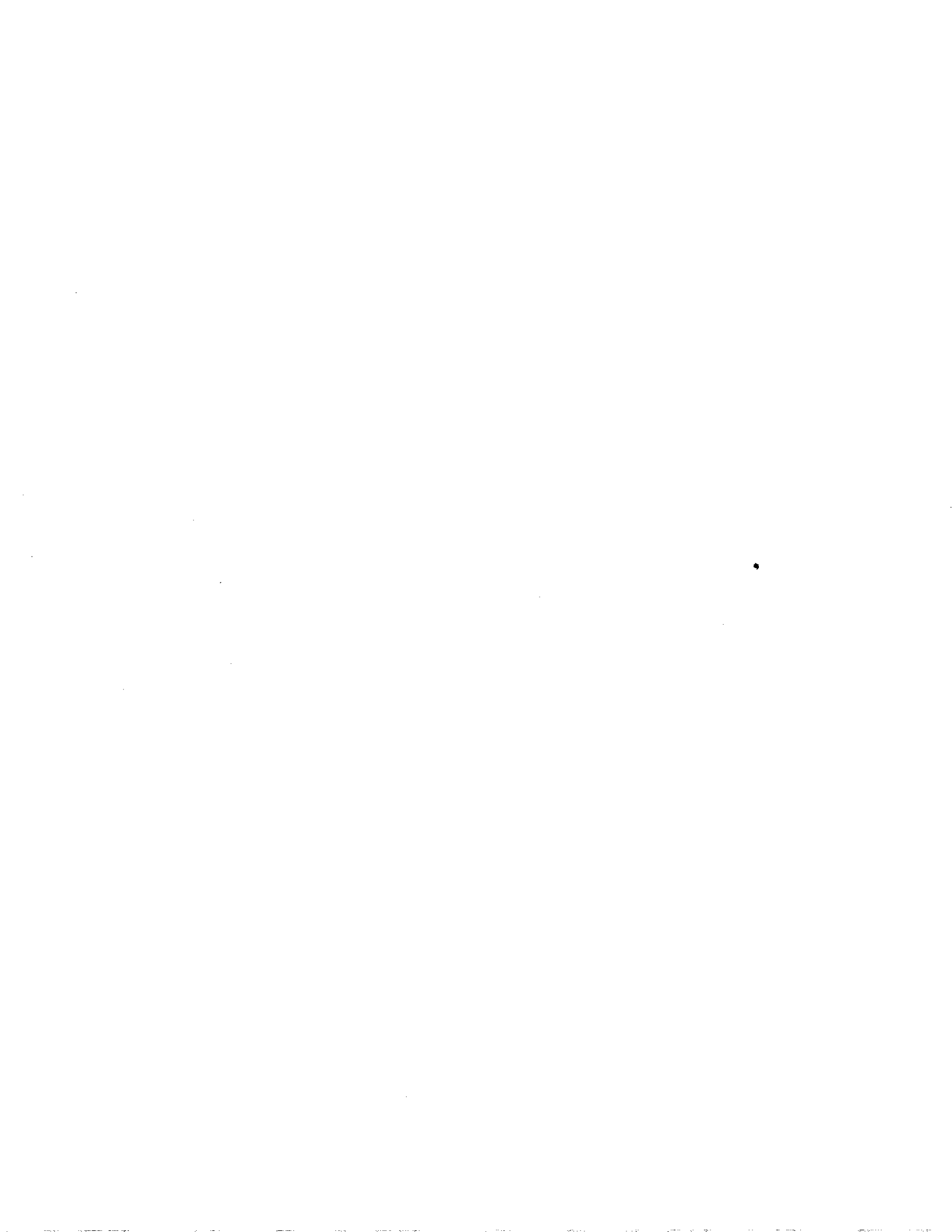
The Literacy Packet can be found at:
welcometo181.weebly.com

The summer work will be collected by your child's literacy teacher the first week of school. This is an essential first step on the path to success at MS 181. These assignments will constitute an important part of the first marking period grade and it is essential that your child complete all summer assignments and submit them on time!

Welcome again and we look forward to seeing you in September!!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Kirrane – Literacy Assistant Principal



Hatchet by Gary Paulsen

Task #1: Complete the graphic organizers as you read.

Task #2: Write two letters to Brian's dad, pretending to be Brian.

Brian's character changes throughout the novel during his experience after the plane crash. At the beginning of his novel, a letter to his father about his parents' divorce would be very different than a letter to his father when he is rescued. Think about how Brian changes during his experiences and make sure that is apparent in each letter. As you write each letter, think about the following questions:

- What is most important to Brian while he is on the plane?
- What is most important to Brian once he survives in the wilderness?
- These are the types of questions to focus on when you are writing these two letters.

Active Reading

Hatchet Chapters 1-5

Brian uses his skills of observation to take stock of his surroundings. Record what Brian finds as he checks out his possessions. Predict how he might use each possession to help him survive.

62 cents in coins -- useless

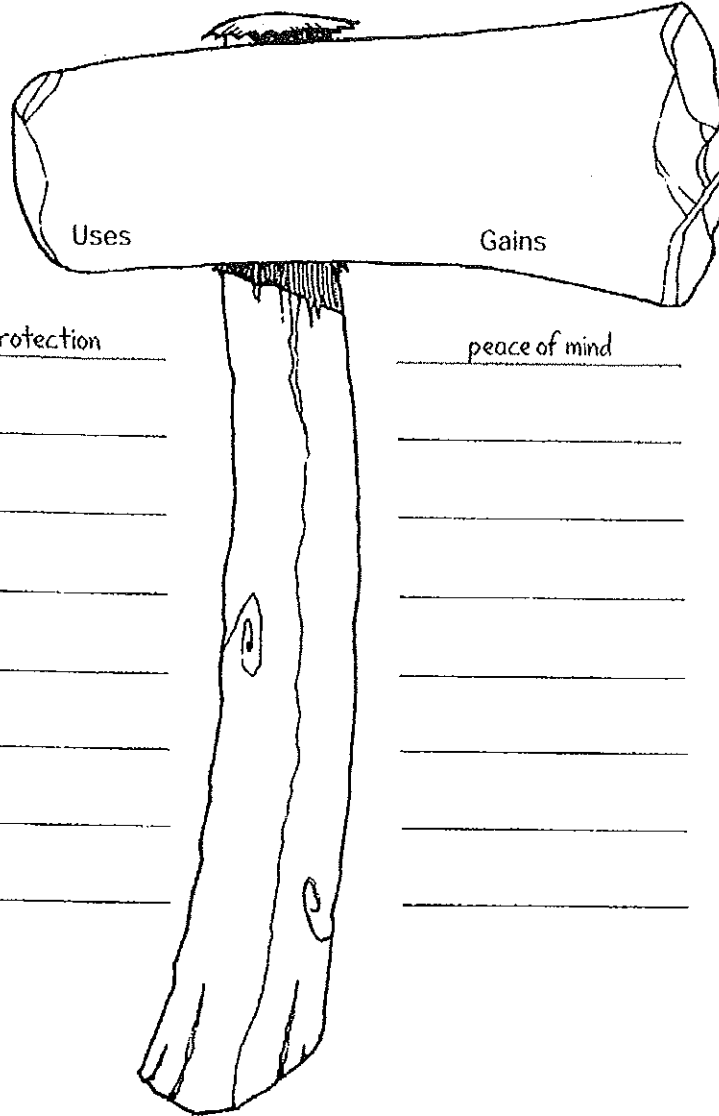


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Active Reading

Hatchet Chapters 6-12

As he sets up camp and settles in, Brian uses his hatchet for a variety of purposes and in several different ways. In the left-hand column, write down each way in which Brian uses his hatchet. In the right-hand column, write down what he gained by using it.



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Active Reading

Hatchet Chapters 13-19 and Epilogue

As Brian learns how to survive in the wilderness, he becomes aware that he is different from the person he was when he began his trip. He notices differences in the way the "new Brian" thinks and gets things done. Record some of the changes that he notices.

What the Old Brian Would Have Done	What the New Brian Does
fear involves	stands, watches, and nods

***Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech**

Task #1 - Sal says that her father did not trust his own parents to behave themselves on the journey west. Imagine that he had asked Sal to write him a letter reporting on what Gram and Gramps were doing.

- What might Sal might have written describing her grandparents' behavior on the drive from Euclid to Minnesota?
- Support the letter with incidents from the novel.

Task #2 - What is the most important lesson that Sal learns at the end of *Walk Two Moons*? In a paragraph or two, discuss the most important lesson that she learns that has made her a different person than she was at the beginning of the novel.

#3 – Complete the graphic organizers for the novel as you read.

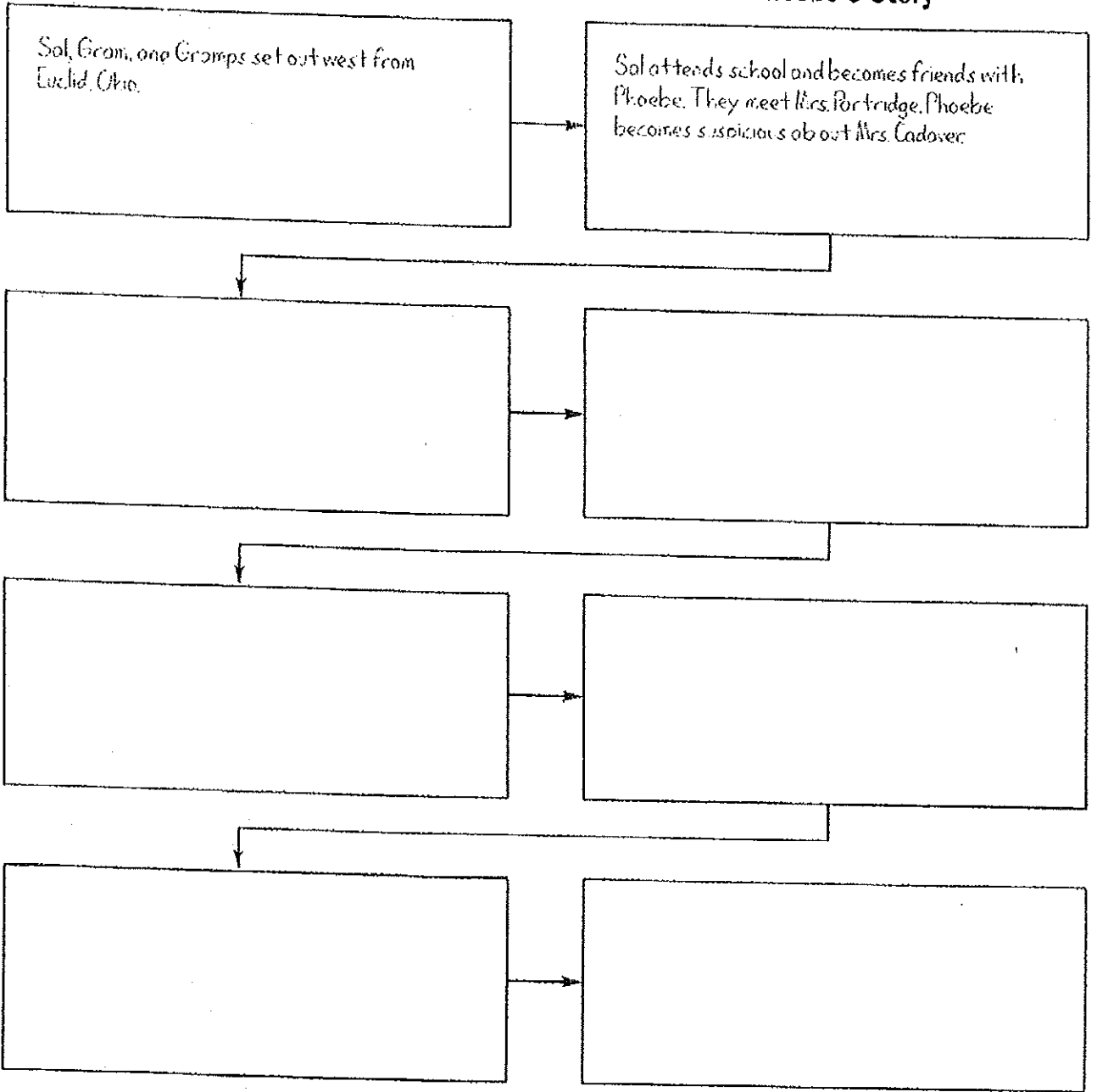
Active Reading

Walk Two Moons Chapters 1-11

The story of Sal's journey west to Idaho alternates with the story she tells Gram and Gramps about Phoebe Winterbottom. Using the boxes below, describe the principal events that occur in each story. Record the details of Sal's journey in column A and those of Phoebe's story in column B. Follow the arrows to keep the events in order.

A: Sal's Story

B: Phoebe's Story

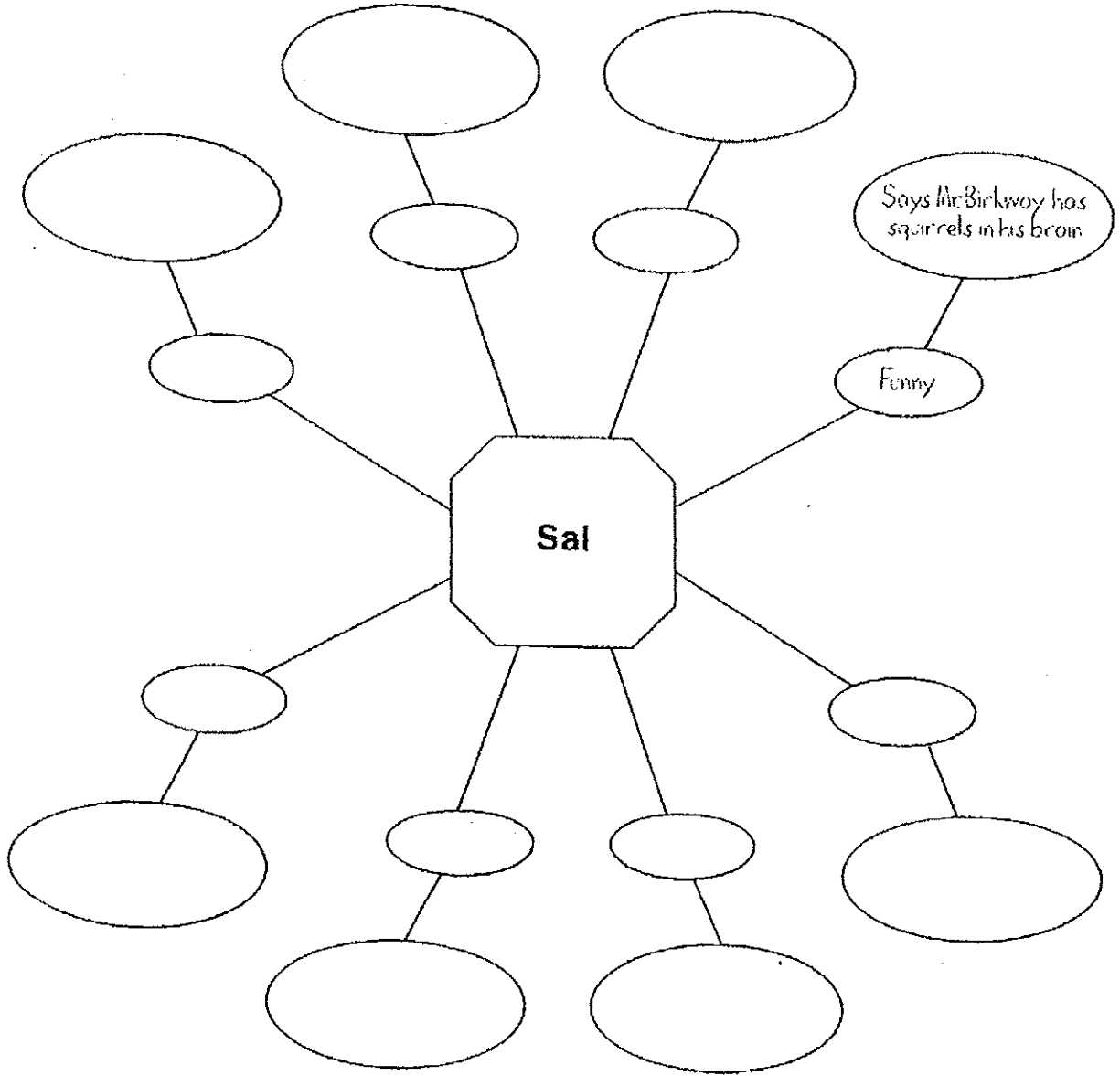


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Active Reading

Walk Two Moons Chapters 12-22

In the diagram below find seven words that you think describe Sal. Then fill in the outer balloons with specific details that support your one-word descriptions.



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Active Reading

Walk Two Moons Chapters 34-44

In *Walk Two Moons*, Sal's story and Phoebe's story are woven together. Using the Venn diagram below, write descriptive words and phrases that show how the two stories are alike and how they are different.

