

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class #: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ DUE on \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: + \_\_\_\_\_ / 24

## “Eleven” by Sandra Cisneros

### Theme Practice

#### ***\*Reminders About Theme\****

1. A theme is a moral/message the reader can learn about life from reading the story.
2. A theme should always be a universal statement that could apply to any person.
3. A theme comes from the lessons learned in a story, but shouldn't mention any details or names from the story.
4. A theme is an opinion about a subject that the character(s) have experienced.
5. A theme gives an opinion about a human behavior.
6. A theme cannot be stated in one word.

**Directions:** Some of your classmates have written the statements below. Using their ideas, fix, change, add to, or improve each statement to make an actual theme statement. Be sure to write a complete sentence. (3 points each)

**EXAMPLE:** Rachel didn't want to wear the sweater.

**Example Answer:** Sometimes in life we are forced to do things we don't want to do.

1. Birthdays.

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2. Mrs. Price made her cry but didn't understand why.

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3. Rachel didn't stand up to her teacher, even though she should have.

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4. Rachel's classmates didn't do anything to help when she was misunderstood by Mrs. Price.

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5. Her birthday didn't go the way she wanted it to.

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6. "What they don't understand about birthdays and what they never tell you is that when you're eleven, you're also ten, and nine, and eight, and seven, and six, and five, and four, and three, and two, and one." (Cisneros 27)

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7. Mrs. Price didn't take the time to understand why Rachel was feeling the way she was.

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8. Rate your understanding and ability of theme so far on a scale of 1-10 (10 = I understand so well I could help others, 1 = I have no idea). Describe why you rated yourself at that number. Which part(s) of theme do you need more practice in?

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