Character Analysis

Name: _____

Date: _____

Fill in the table for each character, with notes on: **a.** their profession · **b.** their relationships with other characters · **c.** their strengths · **d.** their weaknesses · **e.** their motivations (What do they want? What drives them to act the way they do?)

Name	Profession	Relationships	Strengths	Weaknesses	Motivations
 ICHABOD CRANE					
 KATRINA VAN TASSEL					
BALTUS VAN TASSEL					
 BROM VAN BRUNT					
HANS VAN RIPPER					
 THE HEADLESS HESSIAN					

Matching exercise

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Match each phrase from the story with an image. Draw a line to join them.

1

In this by-place of nature there abode, in a remote period of American history, a worthy wight of the name of Ichabod Crane, who sojourned, or, as he expressed it, "tarried", in Sleepy Hollow, for the purpose of instructing the children of the vicinity.

2

The schoolhouse stood in a rather lonely but pleasant situation, just at the foot of a woody hill, with a brook running close by, and a formidable birch-tree growing at one end of it.

3

and like the lion bold, which whilom so magnanimously the lamb did hold, he would sit with a child on one knee, and rock a cradle with his foot for whole hours together.

4

he would have passed a pleasant life of it, in despite of the Devil and all his works, if his path had not been crossed by... a being that causes more perplexity to mortal man than ghosts, goblins, and the whole race of witches put together

A



B



C



D



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Glossary

Name: _____

Date: _____

Inveterate: (adj) long-established and unlikely to change

Repose: (n) a state of rest or sleep

Stripling: (n) a young man

Sabbath: (n) a religious day of rest

Whither: (adv) to which place

Sequestered: (adj) isolated, hidden

Reverie: (n) a daydream

Hessian: (n) a German mercenary soldier

Anon: (adv) soon

Laud: (n) praise

Wight: (n) a person (old-fashioned)

Sojourn: (v) to stay temporarily

Withe: (n) a flexible willow branch

Peradventure: (adv) perhaps

Potentates: (n) monarchs or rulers

Behoove: (v) to be a duty or responsibility of someone

Onerous: (adj) difficult, troublesome

Whilom: (adv) in the past

Magnanimously: (adv) generously or forgivingly

Psalmody: (n) the singing of psalms

Parson: (n) a member of the clergy

Pedagogue: (n) a teacher

Swain: (n) a country youth

Supernumerary: (adj) extra or unneeded

Erudition: (n) knowledge or learning

Credulity: (n) gullibility

Capacious: (adj) spacious

Portentous: (adj) important, or done to project importance

Perambulation: (n) a walk or stroll

BEFORE YOU READ

Do you believe in ghosts? Why do so many people enjoy scary stories?

Think of a teacher you remember very well. What made them memorable, for good or bad?

Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

Please choose the best option for each of the following questions.

1. What is the other name given to Tarrytown?

(a) Greensburgh
(b) Hannastown
(c) New Stanton
(d) Hutchinson

2. What did the narrator go hunting for when he was young, in the walnut grove near the quiet valley?

(a) Badgers
(b) Foxes
(c) Bears
(d) Squirrels

3. What do people call the men who live in Sleepy Hollow?

(a) The Rustic Lads
(b) The Bewitched Boys
(c) The Untouchables
(d) The Sleepy Hollow Boys

4. What animal does the Headless spectre, who haunts Sleepy Hollow, ride?

(a) A horse
(b) A bear
(c) A cow
(d) A dragon

5. Why did Ichabod Crane stay in Sleepy Hollow?

(a) To research the headless horseman
(b) To hide from the police
(c) To teach the children
(d) To practise squirrel hunting

6. Which of the below descriptions match Ichabod Crane? Select all that apply.

[a] Tall
[b] Fat
[c] Lanky
[d] Huge ears
[e] Tiny nose
[f] Long nose
[g] Enormous feet
[h] Blue eyes

7. What did Ichabod Crane always say to his students after punishing them with the birch rod?

(a) That he was sorry and would never hit them again
(b) That they were nothing more than maggots
(c) That what didn't kill them would make them stronger
(d) That they would remember it and thank him for it

8. How does Ichabod Crane survive despite not making much money from teaching?

(a) He is given board and lodging by the parents of his students
(b) He robs banks
(c) He has inherited a large fortune from his great aunt
(d) He smuggles illegal goods

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

9. What does Ichabod Crane take pride in doing on Sundays?

(a) Reading palms
(b) Singing psalms
(c) Attending church
(d) Teaching classes

10. Why does the narrator say that women living in rural neighbourhoods generally consider the schoolmaster to be an important person?

(a) He provides opportunities for their children to further themselves and open their minds
(b) He is considered more learned and sophisticated than other men in the town
(c) They are jealous of all the time he spends with their children
(d) He reminds them of their own teachers when they were young

11. What book does Ichabod Crane often spend hours reading by the stream?

(a) "History of New England Witchcraft"
(b) "The Dire Tales of Mather"
(c) "Sleepy Hollow: A History"
(d) "Horses and the Headless"

12. What does Ichabod Crane do to drown his thoughts or drive away evil spirits while walking back from the stream at night?

(a) Reads his book
(b) Tells stories about comets and shooting stars
(c) Counts up and down to and from 10
(d) Sings psalms

13. What does the narrator say is a being that causes more perplexity to mortal men than ghosts, goblins or witches?

(a) Vampires
(b) The Headless Horseman
(c) A woman
(d) Themselves

If you read it in the iClassics app

Answer these extra questions about what you discover as you read:

1. How many butterflies fly around Sleepy Hollow when you turn the sketch into colourful reality?

2. What happens to the soldier that appears in the red doorway surrounded by spears?

3. What happens when you tap the tree in the moonlight?

Think like a detective

Name: _____

Date: _____

Answer in full sentences. Support your ideas with evidence from the text.

1. The narrator calls Ichabod a “worthy wight” and smiles at him gently. Which words and details in the opening show the narrator’s tone? What does he want us to think about Ichabod?

2. Ichabod is liked by the mothers of his pupils, yet he boards with their families and has little money. What does this tell you about his position in the community?

3. Irving says a certain “being” puzzles mortal men more than ghosts, goblins and witches. Who do you think he means? Why does he say it in such a roundabout way?

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Writing

Name: _____

Date: _____

Imagine you are Katrina, in the middle of Ichabod and Brom's competition for your attention. Write a letter to your best friend explaining what has been happening. Make sure you:

a. Describe both men: how they look, what they are like.

b. Say how you feel about each of them.

c. Ask your friend for advice on the situation.

