Setting

Name: _____

Date: _____

The setting of Sleepy Hollow is an important part of the story, and the narrator describes it in a lot of detail. Complete this thought cloud with as much descriptive information as you can about the setting of Sleepy Hollow. Include information on each of the branches provided. You can also create new branches if you want to add any other information.

INHABITANTS

GEOGRAPHY

SLEEPY HOLLOW

NOTABLE FEATURES

HISTORY

YOUR OWN BRANCH:

YOUR OWN BRANCH:

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Matching exercise

Name: _____

Date: _____

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

1 *It was at this identical spot that the unfortunate André was captured, and under the covert of these chestnuts and vines were the sturdy yeomen concealed who surprised him.*

2 *In the dark shadow of the grove, on the margin of the brook, he beheld something huge, misshapen and towering.*

3 *The stranger, however, quickened his horse to an equal pace*

4 *his horror was still more increased on observing that the head, which should have rested on his shoulders, was carried before him on the pommel of his saddle!*

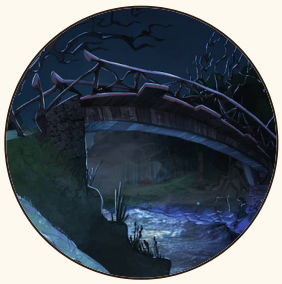
5 *Ichabod cast a look behind to see if his pursuer should vanish, according to rule, in a flash of fire and brimstone.*

A 

B 

C 

D 

E 

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Glossary

Name: _____

Date: _____

Lamentation: (n) the passionate expression of grief or sorrow

Yeomen: (n) land-owning men

Lateral: (adj) sideways

Plashy: (adj) splashy

Cudgel: (n) a short stick used as a weapon

Pertinacious: (adj) stubborn

Girth: (n) a band around a horse's belly that holds the saddle in place

Worsted: (adj) made from a special type of woollen yarn

Foolscap: (n) a size of paper

Brimstone: (n) an old word for sulphur; "fire and brimstone" means the flames of hell

Pommel: (n) the raised knob at the front of a saddle

Spectre: (n) a ghost

Pursuer: (n) someone who chases another

BEFORE YOU READ

Think of a spooky place you know, or imagine one. What makes a place feel haunted: sounds, light, weather?

Why do you think people sometimes prefer a ghost story to a simple explanation? Can a scary story have more than one explanation?

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

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

1. What does Ichabod hear from the opposite shore of the Hudson?

(a) The crowing of a cock
(b) The barking of a watchdog
(c) The howling of wolves
(d) The sounds of a grand party

2. What kind of tree is Major André's tree?

(a) A birch tree
(b) A tulip tree
(c) An elm tree
(d) An oak tree

3. Where does the Headless Hessian carry his head?

(a) On the pommel of his saddle
(b) In a bag around his shoulders
(c) Hanging from his neck
(d) It floats behind him

4. What does Gunpowder do when he reaches the road that leads down to Sleepy Hollow?

(a) Skids to a halt
(b) Increases his speed and gallops back to the town
(c) Swerves off down the hill to the left
(d) Swerves off, taking a path to the right

5. What happens when Ichabod gets half way through the hollow?

(a) He falls off his horse
(b) The Headless Hessian catches him
(c) His saddle begins to slip off
(d) His horse falls over

6. What does the Headless Hessian do after Ichabod crosses the bridge by the church?

(a) Vanishes in a flash of fire and brimstone
(b) Jumps off his horse and begins to walk across the bridge
(c) Turns around and rides off the way they came
(d) Throws his head at him

7. Besides Ichabod's hat, what is found on the banks of the river the next morning?

(a) A shattered pumpkin
(b) A man's head
(c) A letter in a bottle
(d) The broken saddle

8. What has the plowboy often thought he has heard when walking homeward of a still summer evening?

(a) The clatter of horses' hooves
(b) The swish of a birch rod
(c) The howling of a wolf
(d) The chanting of a psalm tune

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Quiz

Name: _____

Date: _____

If you read it in the iClassics app

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

1. What happens when you move the branches hanging before the lightning-stricken trunk?

2. What happens when you hold your finger down on the galloping Ichabod?

Think like a detective

Name: _____

Date: _____

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

1. Follow Ichabod's ride: the tree, the brook, the bridge. Where exactly do the scary things happen, and why might Irving place the final scare at the bridge by the church?

2. The Headless Horseman is seen only in the dark, and a shattered pumpkin is found the next morning. Which clues suggest he may not really be a ghost? List the evidence.

3. Is the ending open? Decide whether Ichabod ran away or was carried off. Use at least two pieces of evidence from the final pages.

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Writing

Name: _____

Date: _____

Write a book review of Sleepy Hollow. In it include information on:

a. The setting

b. The main characters

c. A short outline of the plot

d. The best thing about the book

e. The worst thing about the book

