10 QUESTIONS TO HELP YOU IDENTIFY THEME

Directions: Use this graphic organizer to jot down notes as you read. This will help you identify and track themes as you go!

1. What real life issues are reflected in the text?

2. What does the author say about those issues?

3. Why did the author write this work?

3a. What point is the author trying to make through writing this novel/poem/etc.?

4. What does the work tell us about how people behave?

5. What does the work tell us about how the society affects the individual?
6. What does the work tell us about the relationship of people to nature?

7. What does the work tell us about right and wrong? Or the nature of good and evil?

8. Which of these subjects and themes seem most important in the work?

9. Which of the themes seem most meaningful and interesting to you?

10. For unique or interesting themes, look for unusual patterns and/or anomalies in the work in the following areas: chapter headings, drawings, titles, names, characters, plot, dialogue, behavior, settings, imagery, symbolism, juxtaposition, figurative language.