



## Opinion: Literary Response

Dear Parents,

Over the next few weeks, our class will focus on writing literary responses. Your fifth grader will use engaging strategies to grab the reader's attention. They'll then state their opinion about a character or setting, supporting it with text evidence. Using figurative language, they may employ literary devices to enhance understanding. Finally, the students will summarize their opinions. This type of writing is crucial for developing reading and writing skills and is often tested by states.

### Ideas for Home Support

As your child practices writing these literary responses at school you might consider practicing at home with the following ideas:

- Create a set of opinion response cards with different prompts or statements. Each day, randomly select a card and ask your child to write a brief response expressing their opinion on the topic.
- Ask your child to write a letter expressing their opinion to a local newspaper, politician, or community leader about an issue they care about.
- Read a piece of literature with your child and create a reader's theater from it. Create dialogue and discuss character actions and motivations as the scenes are created.
- Ask your child to retell a story from a different character's perspective or set it in a different period or location. Encourage them to think creatively and justify their choices with evidence from the text.

Thank you for all your support!

Sincerely,

## Opinion: Literary Response Rubric 5th Grade

Genre Chart Opinion: Literary Response	4 Exceeded Goal	3 Accomplished Goal	2 Just Beginning	1 Hasn't Started
<b>Has an engaging introductory paragraph that states the clear opinion</b>	Introduction uses a strategy that is creative and makes a clear opinion statement	Introduction uses an engaging strategy that makes a clear opinion statement	Attempts an engaging strategy in the introduction and an opinion statement but they are not clear	Introduction does not use engagement strategy and has no clear opinion
<b>States an opinion about a character, event, or setting</b>	Gives a strong opinion about a character, events, or setting	States an opinion about a character, events, or setting	Opinion is not clear	Does not include an opinion
<b>Provides text evidence to support the opinion</b>	Gives several pieces of text evidence to support the opinion	Gives text evidence to support the opinion	Evidence does not support the opinion	Does not give evidence for the opinion
<b>Uses figurative language</b>	Uses a few types of figurative language strategies	Uses a figurative language strategy	Attempts some figurative language but it's weak or out of context	Does not use any figurative language
<b>Varies sentence beginnings</b>	Sentence beginnings vary creatively in several different ways	Sentence beginnings are varied	Some sentence beginnings are varied	Most sentences start the same way
<b>Has a conclusion that summarizes the reasons for the opinion</b>	Ends with a creative summary of the opinion	Ends with a summary of the opinion	Ends with a concluding sentence but it does not summarize the opinion	Does not have a conclusion
<b>Correct conventions support the meaning</b>	No errors or minor errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar	A few errors, but they do not interfere with meaning	Frequent errors that distract the reader	So many errors that it is hard to read

## Engaging Introductions Sweetest Fig

### Quote:

**“I can’t pay you money, but I have something better,” the old woman said.** That was the start of an adventure for the greedy dentist in the Sweetest Fig by Chris Van Allsburg. **Monsieur Bibot was not happy with the old woman because he wanted money! He proved true to his first impression in this book. He was greedy to the end.**

### Action:

**Monsieur Bibot pulled the tooth out quickly and asked for the money. He was furious when the old woman did not pay with money but gave him a fig.** That was the start of the book “The Sweetest Fig” by Chris Van Allsburg. **The main character was a greedy man who wanted riches above anything else.**

### Shocking Statement:

**The dentist, Monsieur Bibot, was so mean he didn’t even let his dog bark!** The story written by Chris Van Allsburg, “The Sweetest Fig,” was a tale of greed and selfishness. **The main character was a greedy man who wanted riches above anything else.**

### Annotations:

**Engaging topic sentence is in red bolded**

Title of the book is in green

**Addressing the essential questions/task is in bolded green bold**

## Opinion: Literary Response Model

### *The Sweetest Fig*

The dentist, Monsieur Bibot, was so mean he didn't even let his dog bark! The story written by Chris Van Allsburg, *The Sweetest Fig*, was a tale of greed and selfishness. The main character was a greedy man who wanted riches above anything else.

It was obvious that Bibot was greedy. He treated the old woman who had a toothache very bad when he found out that she did not have money. He would not even give her pain medication after pulling her tooth! He then realizes that the figs really were magical and his immediate reaction was to use them to fulfill his own desire for luxury and did not even consider sharing the remaining fig. Then he thought he could make the figs work but Marcel, his dog, ate the fig. Bibot was furious and yelled at the dog as he chased him under the bed. Monsieur Bibot was so greedy that he treated others poorly and wanted to keep all the benefits of the figs to himself.

We found out how the magic of the figs worked. Marcel was the one who ate the fig and in the morning, the two of them had switched places. All Bibot could do was bark. I do not have much hope for Monsieur Bibot. From his actions in the book, it seems like the greedy dentist is too far gone to learn from this experience. Plus, Marcel now has an opportunity to be the dog owner. With the example of Bibot, dragging him down the stairs or not allowing him to bark, I think Marcel may have the impression that all dogs are treated bad. As a result, Bibot will remain greedy and mean because Marcel will not no to treat him nicely now that Bibot is the dog. Monsieur Bibot is destined to remain greedy the rest of his life.

In summary, Monsieur Bibot's desire for wealth drove him to mistreat others. Considering his selfish and unkind nature, it's likely that as a dog, he'll still be mistreated by Marcel, perpetuating his greed and cruelty. It seems unlikely that Monsieur Bibot will learn from his mistakes.

## Opinion: Literary Response Model - Annotated

### *The Sweetest Fig*

The dentist, **Monsieur Bibot was so mean he didn't even let his dog bark!** "The Sweetest Fig" by Chris Van Allsburg is a tale about greed and selfishness. The His main character was a greedy dentist who wanted riches above anything else.

**From the beginning of the book,** it was obvious that Bibot was greedy. He treated the old woman who had a toothache very **\*badly** when he found out that she did not have money. **The** dentist would not even give her pain medication **\*after pulling her tooth!** **Later in the story,** he discovers that the figs really were magical. His first thought was to use them to fulfill his own luxury, and didn't even think about sharing the remaining fig. **As the story continued,** he thought he could make the figs work but Marcel, his dog, ate the fig. **Bibot became a raging storm** and yelled at the dog **\*as he chased him under the bed.** Monsieur Bibot was so greedy that he treated others poorly and wanted to keep all the benefits of the figs to himself.

**Finally,** we found out how the magic of the figs worked. Marcel was the one who ate the fig and in the morning, the two of them had switched places. **Now** all Bidot could do was bark. I do not have much hope for Monsieur Bibot. From his actions in the book, it seems like the greedy dentist is too far gone for **friendliness or forgiveness,** so he would never learn from this experience. Plus, Marcel now has an opportunity to be the dog owner. **With the example of Bibot** dragging him down the stairs or not allowing him to bark, I think Marcel may have the impression that all dogs are treated badly. **As** a result, Bibot will remain greedy and mean because Marcel will not ~~know~~ how to treat him nicely now that Bibot is the dog. Monsieur Bidot is destined to remain greedy the rest of his life.

**In** summary, Monsieur Bibot's desire for wealth drove him to mistreat others. **Considering his selfish and unkind nature, it's likely that as a dog, he'll still be**

mistreated by Marcel, perpetuating his greed and cruelty. It seems unlikely that Monsieur Bibot will learn from his mistakes.

### Annotations

**Engaging strategy is in red**

**The clear opinion is in bolded green and underlined**

Text evidence for the opinion is in green

**Figurative language is in bolded blue**

**Varied sentence edits are in bolded orange**

Summary of the opinion is in red

Convention edits are in black strikethroughs

\*Edits related to the Writing Warm-Up are in black with an asterisk

## Figurative Language Examples

### Simile

1. The stars twinkled like diamonds in the sky.
2. Her hair was as red as a ripe tomato.
3. The wind whispered through the trees like a secret.

### Metaphor

1. Time is a thief stealing moments from our lives.
2. The classroom was a zoo with all the noisy students.
3. His heart was a racing car, speeding with excitement.

### Onomatopoeia

1. The pan sizzled as the bacon cooked.
2. The bees buzzed around the flowers in the garden.
3. The rain pitter-pattered on the roof during the storm.

### Alliteration

1. The small snail slimed the sidewalk as it slide down the street.
2. Paula decided to paint pictures of pears and apples.
3. The cute caterpillar crawled across the counter.

## Opinion: Literary Response Model

### *Each Kindness*

The new girl walks into the class and is assigned to sit by Chloe. Instantly, she ignores the new girl and will not even smile at her. That is the situation in the book *Each Kindness*, by Jacqueline Woodson. During the course of the year Chloe is unkind to this girl but she eventually learns a lesson in kindness that fills her with regret and changes her forever.

It took Chloe all year to change but she eventually realized that her constant unkindness to Maya was a bad idea. From the first time she laid eyes on Maya she was mean to her. She ignored her and refused to smile at the new girls when she just barely sat down. Maya would often bring things to school and show them in an effort to fit in, but Chloe and her friends refuse to play with her each time. She brought jacks, a doll, cards and some pick up sticks but the answer was no, we will not play with you. They would make fun of what she eat, and what she wore. Maya was amazing because she just kept trying to be friends with them. Eventually, they're teacher gave a lesson on the ripple effect of kindness and it touched Chloe. She waited to be able to apologize to Maya. Unfortunately, Maya never returned to school. Chloe knew then that her unkindness could never be fixed.

Chloe was very regretful and that is what makes me think that she will be forever changed by these events. Each day she waited for Maya to come back to school, but she never did. Chloe realized that each kind or unkind thing was sending a ripple out into the world. Each unkindness or hand held out with a gift that is refused, like Maya did at school, created a ripple she could never take back. The ripple she sent out for Maya was one of meanness and she deeply regretted it. That is what makes me think that from that day forward Chloe was changed and became a kinder person to everyone she met.



It is apparent to me that by the end of the story Chloe was forever changed. She regretted her treatment of Maya and any new person who goes to her school will benefit from what she learned. I don't believe that Chloe will repeat all the mean things she did. Instead, she will try very hard to be kinder to everyone.

## Opinion: Literary Response Model - Annotated

### *Each Kindness*

**The new** girl student **walks into the class and is assigned to sit by Chloe. Instantly, she ignores the new girl and will not even** smile at her **offer a smile.**

That is the situation in the book *Each Kindness*, by Jacqueline Woodson. During the course of the year, Chloe is unkind to this girl but she eventually learns a lesson in kindness that fills her with regret and changes her forever.

It took Chloe all year to change, but she eventually realized that her constant unkindness to Maya was a bad idea. **From the first time** she laid eyes on Maya, she was mean to her. She ignored her and refused to smile at the new girls when she just barely sat down. Maya would often bring things to school and show them in an effort to fit in, but Chloe and her friends refused to play with her each time. **She** brought jacks, a doll, cards, and some pick up sticks, but the answer was, "No, we ~~would~~**will** not play with you." **They were as mean as the worst bullies** and would make fun of what she eat~~ed~~**ate**, and what she wore. Maya was amazing because she just kept trying to be friends with them. **Eventually**, ~~they're~~their teacher gave a lesson on the ripple effect of kindness and it touched Chloe. She waited to be able to apologize to Maya. **Unfortunately**, Maya never returned to school. Chloe knew then that her unkindness could never be fixed.

Chloe was very regretful and that is what makes me think that she will be forever changed by these events. **Each day**, she waited for Maya to come back to school, but she never did. Chloe realized that each kind or unkind thing was sending a ripple out into the world. ~~Each~~Every unkindness or hand held out with a gift that is refused, like Maya did at school, created a ripple she could never take back. The ripple she sent out for Maya was one of meanness and she deeply regretted it. **It was a heavy anchor weighing her down each day.** ~~That is what makes me~~**As a result of these events**, I think that from that day forward Chloe was changed and became a kinder person to everyone she met.

**It is apparent to me** that by the end of the story, Chloe was forever changed. She regretted her treatment of Maya, and any new person who goes to her school will benefit from what she learned. I don't believe that Chloe will repeat all the mean things she did. Instead, she will try very hard to be kinder to everyone.

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