Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Visual Frame Analysis for Thematic Purpose

**Step 1: I Spy**

* What is happening in the picture? Summarize the “action” of the image without analyzing its meaning yet. (i.e. pretend I can’t see the image, and you have to describe it to me so that I can accurately draw it.) This is equivalent to a “paraphrase” of the picture.

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|  |

**Step 2**: **Identifying Graphic Elements**

* Consider the following elements. Circle 3-5 elements that stand out to you as important in the panel. (Feel free to add elements to the chart if necessary.)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Size of frame/Shape of frame | Size of people/objects | Facial expressions |
| Use of foreground/background | Use of black/white | Dialogue bubbles or thought bubbles |
| Juxtaposition of people/objects | Use of specific colors | Repeated images |
| Narration | Use of angles/lines | Body positions |

**Step 3: Interpreting Graphic Elements**

* List the graphic elements that you selected down the left side of the chart below. Now, on the right side, note the effect or purpose of this graphic element. This is equivalent to annotating for literary/rhetorical devices and their purposes.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Graphic Element** | **Effect or Purpose** |
| 1. |  |
| 2. |  |
| 3. |  |
| 4. |  |
| 5. |  |

**Step 4**: **Identify Big Ideas**

* Now look at the notes you made in the chart above. What big idea(s) do these elements seem to convey? What big ideas do you notice being repeated? Do any of these elements seem to create juxtaposition or disruption? How might that disruption contribute to a big idea? When applicable, try to select big ideas that have recurred throughout the larger text. This is equivalent to brainstorming big ideas prior to drafting a claim.

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| --- |
| List kjl List your big ideas here: |

**Step 5: Draft a Claim**

* Look at your big ideas. Select 2-3 that you believe are working together to convey the author’s purpose. Then, in the space below, use those 2-3 ideas to draft three revisions of your claim. *Your claim should make an argument about the author’s larger thematic purpose that occurs not only in this frame, but also throughout the text when applicable.* You should significantly develop *your ideas* in your revisions. Don’t just rewrite your first idea in slightly different terms: complicate your thinking. Push past the obvious conclusion.
* Here are some sentence starters to help you:

 Graphic elements, such as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ connect to the author’s larger idea that . . .
 The author reinforces the notion that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ when s/he uses graphic elements such as . . .
 Certain images, such as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ contribute to the reader’s sense that . . .

 Juxtaposed images of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ advance the author’s idea that . . .

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| --- |
| 1st Draft: |

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| --- |
| 2nd Dra 2nd Draft:  |

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| --- |
| 3rd Dra 3rd Draft:  |