

## MLR Examples

### Character Trait Response

In the book Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner, Little Willy is a determined character. In the beginning, Little Willy works on the farm to take care of the harvest. Even though he doesn't have a horse to help him harvest the potatoes, he still manages to get it done in time. This proves that little Willy is determined because he doesn't give up on the harvest, even though it seems impossible for him to do it alone. Later in the story, he enters a race that "is not for amateurs". This proves that he is determined because he doesn't back out even though he is the only child that is racing. The final reason that proves that little Willy is determined is that he finishes the race while holding his dog Searchlight through the finish line. Even though Searchlight passed away, Little Willy was determined to cross the finish line and win the race to help his grandfather. These reasons all prove that Little Willy is determined in the book Stone Fox.

### Character Relationship Response

Little Willy and Searchlight have a strong relationship in the book Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner. In the beginning, Searchlight helps Little Willy take care of the crops. Little Willy states that his dog is just as good as the horses when it comes to harvesting crops. This shows that Searchlight and Little Willy have an important relationship. Later in the story, Little Willy and Searchlight practice for the big race. Searchlight works hard to complete the practices with Little Willy. This shows that they have a good relationship because Searchlight wants to help little Willy win. At the end of the story Searchlight does not survive. The text states that little Willy carried Searchlight and, "Walked the last ten feet and across the finish line." This proves that Little Willy cares for Searchlight. These reasons prove that Little Willy and Searchlight have a strong relationship.

### Character Change Response

In the book Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner, Little Willy changes throughout the story. In the beginning of the book, Little Willy was dependent on his grandfather. In the book it states, "Grandfather always got up real early in the morning. So early that it was still dark outside. He would make a fire. Then he would make breakfast and call Little Willy." This proves that Little Willy was dependent on his grandfather because he grandfather took care of him. The turning point in the book is when little Willy realizes that his grandfather isn't going to get better fast. This is turning point because Little Willy realizes that he can no longer depend on his grandfather in the story. After, Little Willy changes and becomes more independent. For example, Little Willy had to prepare for the harvest by cleaning the shed, inspecting and fixing the potato sacks, and picking all of the potatoes. This proves that little Willy is independent because he does all of this by himself without his grandfather's help. In conclusion, Little Willy changed from dependent to independent in the book Stone Fox.

### Theme Response (Problem + Solution = Theme)

In the book Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner, Little Willy learns to never give up throughout the story. In the beginning of the story, Willy's grandfather gets very sick. This is a problem because Little Willy needs to pay the taxes in order to keep his house and help his grandfather get better. Later in the story, Willy enters a race that is "not for amateurs" in order to win the prize money and help his grandfather. With help from Searchlight, Little Willy works hard and practices every day. At the end of the story, Little Willy races against Stone Fox. Unfortunately, Searchlight died at the end of the race. However, Little Willy carried Searchlight through the finish line and won the race. As a result, Little Willy never gave up. He worked hard throughout the book and won the prize at the end. In conclusion, the theme of this story is to never give up even when times are difficult.