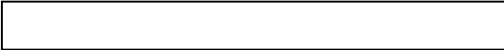


Legend: Compare and Contrast



<p>General Info</p> <p>1. Legends are exaggerated stories told to remember the actions of a person, who made a difference in history.</p> <p>Hyperbole is used to tell the story.</p> <p>Celebration, nostalgia, and humor are common moods of the legend.</p>	<p>2. "This neighborhood, at the time of which I am speaking, was one of those highly favored places which abound with chronicle and great men. The British and American line had run near it during the war; it had, therefore, been the scene of marauding, and infested with refugees, cowboys, and all kinds of border chivalry. Just sufficient time had elapsed to enable each storyteller to dress up his tale with a little becoming fiction, and, in the indistinctness of his recollection, to make himself the hero of every exploit." http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/IrvLege.html</p> <p>"But all these were nothing to the tales of ghosts and apparitions that succeeded. The neighborhood is rich in legendary treasures of the kind. Local tales and superstitions thrive best in these sheltered long-settled retreats, but are trampled under foot by the shifting throng that forms the population of most of our country places. Besides, there is no encouragement for ghosts in most of our villages, for they have scarcely had time to finish their first nap and turn themselves in their graves before their surviving friends have traveled away from the neighborhood; so that when they turn out at night to walk their rounds they have no acquaintance left to call upon. This is perhaps the reason why we so seldom hear of ghosts except in our long-established Dutch communities." http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/IrvLege.html</p>
<p>Protagonist</p> <p>2. The protagonist of a legend was/is real. The author exaggerates the story about this historical person ... this legend.</p> <p>Characters</p>	<p>5. "From the listless repose of the place, and the peculiar character of its inhabitants, who are descendants from the original Dutch settlers, the sequestered glen has long been known by the name of Sleepy Hollow, and its rustic lads are called the Sleepy Hollow boys throughout all the neighboring country." http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/IrvLege.html</p> <p>6. "The dominant spirit, however, that haunts this enchanted region, and seems to be commander-in-chief of all the powers of the air, is the apparition of a figure on horseback without a head. It is said by some to be the ghost of a Hessian trooper, whose head had been carried away by a cannon-ball, in some nameless battle during the revolutionary war; and who is ever and anon seen by the country folk hurrying along in the gloom of night, as if on the wings of the wind. His haunts are not confined to the valley, but extend at times to the adjacent roads, and especially to the vicinity of a church at no great distance. Indeed, certain of the most authentic historians of those parts, who have been careful in collecting and collating the floating facts concerning this spectre, allege that the body of the trooper, having been buried in the church-yard, the ghost rides forth to the scene of battle in nightly quest of his head; and that the rushing speed with which he sometimes passes along the Hollow, like a midnight blast, is owing to his being belated, and in a hurry to get back to the church-yard before daybreak.</p> <p>"Such is the general purport of this legendary superstition, which has furnished materials for many a wild story in that region of shadows; and the spectre is known, at all the country firesides, by the name of the Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow." http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/IrvLege.html</p> <p>7. "In this by-place of nature, there abode, in a remote period of American history, that is to say, some thirty years since, a worthy wight of the name of Ichabod Crane; who sojourned, or, as he expressed it, "tarried," in Sleepy Hollow, for the purpose of instructing the children of the vicinity. He was a native of Connecticut; a State which supplies the Union with pioneers for the mind as well as for the forest, and sends forth yearly its legions of frontier woodsmen and country schoolmasters. The cognomen of Crane was not inapplicable to his person. He was tall, but exceedingly lank, with narrow shoulders, long arms and legs, hands that dangled a mile out of his sleeves, feet that might have served for shovels, and his whole frame most loosely hung together. His head was small, and flat at top, with huge ears, large green glassy eyes, and a long snipe nose, so that it looked like a weather-cock, perched upon his spindle neck, to tell which way the wind blew. To see him striding along the profile of a hill on a windy day, with his clothes bagging and fluttering about him one might have mistaken him for the genius of famine descending upon the earth, or some scarecrow eloped from a cornfield." http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/IrvLege.html</p>
<p>3. The setting of a legend does reflect the specific historical time and place in which the protagonist lived. The historical facts are exaggerated.</p> <p>Hyperbole is great exaggeration.</p>	<p>3. "In the heart of one of those spacious coves which indent the eastern shore of the Hudson, at that broad expansion of the river denominated by the ancient Dutch navigators, the Tappensee, and where they always prudently shortened sail and implored protection of St Nicholas when they crossed, there lies a small market town or rural port, which by some is called Greensburgh, but which is more generally and properly known by the name Tarry Town." http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/IrvLege.html</p> <p>4. "A small brook glides through it with just a murmur enough to lull one to repose; and the occasional whistle of a quail or tapping of a woodpecker is almost the only sound that ever breaks the uniform tranquility." http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/IrvLege.html</p> <p>8. "His school-house was a low building of one large room, rudely constructed of logs; the windows partly glazed, and partly patched with leaves of old copy-books. It was most ingeniously secured at vacant hours, by a wither twisted in the handle of the door, and stakes set against the window shutters; so that, though a thief might get in with perfect ease, he would find some embarrassment in getting out; an idea most probably borrowed by the architect, Yost Van Houton, from the mystery of an eel-pot. The school-house stood in a rather lonely but pleasant situation just at the foot of a woody hill, with a brook running close by, and a formidable birch tree growing at one end of it. From hence the low murmur of his pupils' voices, conning over their lessons, might be heard in a drowsy summer's day, like the hum of a bee-hive; interrupted now and then by the authoritative voice of the master, in the tone of menace or command; or, peradventure, by the appalling sound of the birch, as he urged some tardy loiterer along the flowery path of knowledge. Truth to say, he was a conscientious man, and ever bore in mind the golden maxim, "Spare the rod and spoil the child."—Ichabod Crane's scholars certainly were not spoiled." http://etext.virginia.edu/toc/modeng/public/IrvLege.html</p>

<p>Theme</p> <p>4. The themes of legends tell the stories of the actions of real people - actions that have been recorded in history.</p>	<p>Identify the theme using your theme cheat sheet.</p> <p>Theme: Facing the Unknown</p> <p>Explain your choice:</p> <p>Not only did Ichabod Crane “face the unknown” when he walked as an itinerant pedagogue from Connecticut to Sleepy Hollow, New York, but also “faced the unknown” on his ride home from the Van Tassel’s “frolic.” He faced his fears personified in the headless horseman of Sleepy Hollow.</p>
<p>Rationale</p> <p>5a. Legends honor the daily life of a person.</p> <p>b. Hyperbole is used to highlight the events of that person’s life.</p> <p>c. Legends celebrate what a person can accomplish.</p>	<p>Explain how this legend honors and celebrates the daily life of the people of Sleepy Hollow. Include in your explanation a least one example of hyperbole.</p> <p>a. Legends Honor Daily Life: Washington Irving honors the 1820’s life-style of the farmer’s and townspeople who live in Sleepy Hollow. Irving described the farmhouse, the barn and barnyard animals, the chores children would have had to complete after school, and the story-telling activities families shared in their leisure time. He also honors the day-to-day activities represented by Ichabod Crane as the pedagogue of his one-room school house and describes the one-room school house.</p> <p>b. Hyperbole: Washington Irving compares Ichabod Crane to a “cruel potentate” lauding over his “literary realm” as if he were the ruler of a country not just the teacher of a classroom. In his physical description of Ichabod Crane, Washington Irving compares the protagonist to “the genius of famine descending upon the earth” and “a scarecrow eloped from a cornfield.”</p> <p>c. Legends Celebrate What People Can Accomplish: Washington Irving celebrated the accomplishments of a good story told as a form of entertainment in the 1820’s. Celebrations were those moments in time when everyday people took a respite from the physical labors of their daily lives. They shared meals, told stories, gathered berries for dessert while enjoying a Sunday afternoon walk, ... He created settings and characters that were familiar to the people who lived in New York (1783 – 1859) during that period in history; his lifetime. His audience was able to identify with his stories because his stories depicted their lives and work.</p> <p>Note: Reading period literature is like being a time-traveler. It offers the opportunity to experience another time in history, another way of living, a collective past shared by humanity. As we learn to mature our writing styles, authors like Washington Irving, L. Frank Baum, and Samuel Langhorne Clemens become our mentors. Each has a distinctive writing style. Each used specific words to paint pictures in our imaginations like an artist uses specific colors. Each crafted sentences in such a way that some sentences are long and some are short, some are repeated and some poetic, but when all are combined the story being told has a rhythm and pace that carries the audience off on a journey of discovery.</p>