

Name :

A Anticipation

1. Look at the origin of this page. What do you associate the word "chemistry" with?

Science / how substances are made up -

2. What may happen when you put different elements into contact?

- They may or may not combine.
- Reactions -

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B Essentials

1. Who are the main characters? GIVE AS MANY DETAILS AS YOU CAN

- The narrator
- his mother
- Ralph (his mother's new boyfriend / his step father)
- the narrator's grandfather

2. When does the scene take place?

At dinner time - / in Autumn

3. Divide the text into three parts. Where does each part take place? Find a title for each part.

- beg → l 8: in the dining room = Grandfather vs Ralph -
- l 9 → 24: in the kitchen : what should we do?

- l 25 → end: back in the dining room: (the) mother's decision -

4. Explain briefly what takes place in each part.

- The Grandfather provokes Ralph by eating slowly -

- The mother would like the narrator to help her

- She takes sides with Ralph.

friendly / nervous / hostile / sympathetic /
impolite / disapproving / choosy /
pleasant / offensive / weak / fearful /
strong / uncertain / bossy

C Going into detail

1. Which adjective would you use to describe the grandfather and the mother?

JUSTIFY BY QUOTING FROM THE TEXT.

- The grandfather = hostile = l 1: deliberately ate slowly to provoke Ralph.

- The mother { fearful l 4: she looked frightened.
uncertain l 10: "what am I going to do?"

2. What happens in the kitchen between the mother and the narrator?

Both remember hard times and comfort each other,

then, the mother gets ready to cope with the situation.
she takes him in her arms and recovers strength
she asks him for a solution -

3. In what way does the narrator really "come and help" his mother?

He reminds her of the past = They have dealt with
hard times before

4. Contrast the description of the mother before and after this passage:

Quote two passages. Then, explain the change in your own words.

- ④
- l 4 "she looked frightened" ①
 - { l 20 "her faced was composed again" ①
 - { l 23 "They strode resolutely back to the table." ②
- when the mother returns from the kitchen, she is a different person.

D The meanings of food

1. What does food mean for

the grandfather? a way of reaching / provoking.

Ralph? likes eating.

③ The mother? a way of displaying authority.

2. Why does the narrator say "his stew" and "ours"? What does this show?

① The grandfather stands apart, he is an outsider.

3. What ingredients is the dessert made of?

② apples and sugar. crème anglaise

① 4. What is the effect of the custard on the dessert? It sweetens the apple crumble.
What is the deeper meaning of this combination?

① The mother needs the help of her son to "cool" down and master the situation.

F BEYOND THE SURFACE.

1. What verb is used twice to speak of the grandfather's actions? Comment on it.
(=explain what it tells us about him)

② pick (l 1 / 18) (He isn't really hungry.)
He methodically does all he can to show his hostility.

2. What has the grandfather done outside in the garden?
What is he trying to do inside, in the house?

② 1) He has destroyed the harmony in the garden.
2) He is trying to destroy the harmony of their family.

3. To what extent could you say the mother is also "defying the onset of autumn"?

① She challenges the grandfather's authority.
Autumn: beg of the end.
She doesn't want to risk losing her family a second time.