English 10: World Literature

Unit 1: Reading Magic Realism

The Book of Sand

by Jorge Luis Borges



*Standards Assessed:*

* ***Standard #21***

*Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.*

Read “The Book of Sand” by Jorge Luis Borges on page 103 of the Reading the World textbook. Answer the following questions.

* 1. Complete the “Story Map 3” on the backside of this paper. Be sure you prove you read the story by using details.
  2. Choose four words from the story that you didn’t understand or had trouble with comprehending. (These cannot be the **bold** vocabulary in the margins!)

Complete the Academic Vocabulary charts, one for each of the four words.

* 1. How is this story “magic realism”? Explain.
  2. What might the book of sand symbolize? Explain.
  3. Find an example of a metaphor in the story (indicate page number).
  4. After you read the story, what imagery do you remember seeing in your mind? List some of the sensory details the author used.
  5. How is this story an allegory? Explain.
  6. What mood did you have as you read the story? Use a quote from the book to support this mood you had.