

| TOPICS LEADING TO THEMES: |               |               |                 |                  |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| AMBITION                  | DEVOTION      | HAPPINESS     | KINDNESS        | REVENGE          |
| ANGER                     | DISCOVERY     | HARDSHIP      | LONELINESS      | RISK TAKING      |
| ATTITUDE (-/)             | DREAMS        | HARMONY       | LOSS            | SELF-IMPROVEMENT |
| BEAUTY                    | DUTY          | HATE          | MATERIALISM     | SELFISHNESS      |
| BELIEF                    | ENDURANCE     | HEART         | MODESTY         | SELF-RELIANCE    |
| BELONGING                 | EVIL          | HERITAGE      | NATURE          | SERENITY         |
| BRAVERY                   | FAILURE       | HEROISM       | NOBILITY        | SIN              |
| BROTHERHOOD               | FAIRNESS      | HOME          | OUTSIDER        | SISTERHOOD       |
| CELEBRATION               | FAITH         | HONOR         | PATIENCE        | STINGINESS       |
| CHILDHOOD                 | FAMILY        | HOPE          | PATRIOTISM      | SUCCESS          |
| COMPASSION                | FEAR          | HUMILITY      | PERSEVERANCE    | SURVIVAL         |
| COURAGE                   | FLATTERY      | IDENTITY      | PERSISTENCE     | TEMPTATION       |
| COWARDICE                 | FORGIVENESS   | IMPRESSION    | POWER           | TRANQUILITY      |
| CRUELTY                   | FREEDOM       | INDEPENDENCE  | PREJUDICE       | TRUST            |
| CULTURE                   | FRIENDSHIP    | INDIVIDUALISM | PRIDE           | TYRANNY          |
| DARING                    | GENERATION    | INJUSTICE     | RACE RELATIONS  | UN               |
| DEATH                     | GENEROSITY    | INSPIRATION   | REJECTION       | VANITY           |
| DECEPTION                 | GETTING AHEAD | JEALOUSY      | RESENTMENT      | WAR              |
| DENIAL                    | GREED         | JUDGEMENT     | RESPECT         | MORALITY         |
| DETERMINATION             | GROWING UP    | JUSTICE       | RESOURCEFULNESS | CHANGE           |

| UNIVERSAL THEMES & GENERALIZATIONS   |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1. CHANGE:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generates additional change</li> <li>Can be either positive or negative</li> <li>Is inevitable</li> <li>Is necessary for growth</li> <li>Can be evolutionary or revolutionary</li> </ul>                      | <b>6. PATTERNS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have segments that are repeated</li> <li>Allow for prediction</li> <li>Have an internal order</li> <li>Are enablers</li> </ul>   |
| <b>2. CONFLICT:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is composed of opposing forces</li> <li>May be natural or man-made</li> <li>May be intentional or unintentional</li> <li>May allow for synthesis and change</li> <li>Is progressive</li> </ul>              | <b>7. POWER:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the ability to influence</li> <li>May be used or abused</li> <li>Is always present in some form</li> <li>May take away forms</li> </ul>  |
| <b>3. EXPLORATION:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires recognizing purpose and responding to it</li> <li>Confronts the "unknown"</li> <li>May result in new findings or the confirmation of old findings</li> </ul>                                    | <b>8. STRUCTURE:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has parts that interrelate</li> <li>Has parts that support and are supported</li> <li>May combine to form larger structures</li> <li>Is no stronger than its weakest component</li> </ul> |
| <b>4. FORCE OR INFLUENCE:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Attracts, holds, or repels</li> <li>Influences or changes</li> <li>Force and inertia are co-dependent</li> <li>May be countered with equal or greater force</li> </ul>                            | <b>9. SYSTEMS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have parts that work together to complete a task</li> <li>Are composed of subsystems</li> <li>Follow rules</li> <li>May be influenced by other systems</li> <li>Interact</li> </ul>         |
| <b>5. ORDER:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May be natural or constructed</li> <li>May allow for prediction</li> <li>May have repeated patterns</li> <li>Order and chaos are reciprocals</li> <li>Order leads to chaos and chaos leads to order</li> </ul> | <b>10. RELATIONSHIPS:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Everything is related in some way</li> <li>Are powerful</li> <li>Are purposeful</li> <li>Change over time</li> <li>Follow rules</li> </ul>   |

**(The Universal Truth or Lesson of a Literary Work)**

**THEME STATEMENT = Literary Theme Topic OR Universal Theme + VERB + IDEA (so what?)**  
**(This is what you will be using for essays and literature projects)**

**Verb List: converges, joins together with, contributes to, influences, affects, changes, creates, originates from, comes from, causes, goes against, conflicts with, contradicts, leads to, evolves from, is rooted in, transcends, rises above, transforms, gains, loses, etc...**

**Advanced big idea/theme sentence = Topic + Universal Theme + Icon + Imperative**  
**(This is what you will be using for the GATE Symposium or Research Projects)**

**THE C.A.R.S. TEST to determine credibility of sources!**

**Credibility:** Author's credentials, quality evidence, reputation, reliable expertise (.gov, .edu)

**Accuracy:** timeliness -recent, fact-based, detailed, exact, comprehensive (thorough), informative purpose, no hidden agenda

**Reasonableness:** Objectivity, moderateness (not too extreme on either end), consistency, multiple perspectives

**Support:** corroboration (more than one group can agree), reliable sources were referenced and/or this source is also cited by others, external consistency (there are other studies with similar results)