Anticipation Guide

Predictions are guesses as to what will happen. Good readers predict as they read along. They use what they already know and the details in the story to make predictions.

Before you read “The Sniper,” make one or two predictions about what might happen in the story. Then as you read continue filling in the chart.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **What You Know** | **Predictions** |
| **Snipers have guns. In war, people get killed.** | **One or more people will get killed.** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| On a rooftop near O’Connell Bridge, a Republican sniper lay watching. Beside him lay his rifle and over his shoulders was slung a pair of field glasses. His face was the face of a student, thin and ascetic, but his eyes had the cold gleam of the fanatic. They were deep and thoughtful, the eyes of a man who is used to looking at death. | What do you predict the sniper will do based on these lines? |
| Then round the corner of a side street came an old woman, her head covered by a tattered shawl. She began to talk to the man in the turret of the car. She was pointing to the roof where the sniper lay. An informer. | Circle the word that identifies the woman’s role in the war. Underline the sentences that describe her actions. What do you predict will happen to the woman? |
| The sniper lay still for a long time nursing his wounded arm and planning escape. Morning must not find him wounded on the roof. The enemy on the opposite roof covered his escape. He must kill the enemy and he could not use his rifle. He had only a revolver to do it. Then he thought of a plan. | What do you think the sniper’s plan will be? |
| When the sniper reached the laneway on the street level, he felt a sudden curiosity as to the identity of the enemy sniper whom he had killed. He decided that he was a good shot, whoever he was. He wondered did he know him. Perhaps he had been in his own company before the split in the army. He decided to risk going over to have a look at him. He peered around the corner into O’Connell Street. In the upper part of the street there was heavy firing, but around here all was quiet. | Who do you predict the sniper’s enemy will be? |

**I. VOCABULARY**: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the story or class discussion.

ascetic\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

beleaguer\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

fast\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

fanatic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

fleecy\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

fractured \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

lodge\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

paroxysm\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

reel\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

ruse\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

remorse\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

tattered\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**II. QUESTIONS**: Answer the following questions.

1. What time of day is the story set?
2. Where does the action take place?
3. What are the names of the two sides?
4. What side is the protagonist on?
5. Why hadn’t the sniper eaten since morning?
6. What risk does the sniper decide to take?
7. What pulls up in front of the building?
8. What happens to the driver and the old woman?
9. How is the sniper injured?
10. How does this injury affect him?
11. Why is it impossible for the sniper to leave the roof
12. Describe the sniper’s ruse to kill the other sniper.
13. How does the sniper feel about war after he had killed the other sniper?
14. What happened when the sniper threw the revolver down?
15. Who was the dead sniper?
16. How might the story be different if the story was told from third person omniscient?

Reflection

1. How does the author manipulate our feelings and attitudes throughout the story?
2. What do you think this story says about war in general? Why?

## Synonym Review

Directions: *Below are synonyms to your vocabulary words for “The Sniper”. Write the vocabulary word next to its set of synonyms.*

1. austere, strict, stern
2. convulsion, spasm
3. deception, feint, hoax
4. embedded, wedged
5. extremist, zealot
6. guilt, regret
7. stagger, waver
8. abstain, forego, avoid
9. ragged, threadbare, frayed
10. surrounded, attacked

**Sentences**

1. As soon as the gag was taken off his mouth, the hostage began to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ incoherently.
2. The monks lived a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ life, practicing self-denial and strict discipline.
3. Financial woes continue to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the struggling little company.
4. Nat Turner became a(n) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the cause of freedom and led an uprising of slaves.
5. The wily con man deceived the elderly widow with an elaborate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
6. All day the emphysema patient wheezed and coughed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
7. The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ he felt for his part in the crime continued to gnaw at him until he confessed.

**The Sniper** By: **Liam O’Flaherty** Published\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SHORT STORY ELEMENTS WORKSHEET - Fill in the following as appropriate:

**SETTING**

a)  Place –

b)  Time –

c)  Weather conditions –

d) Social conditions –

e)  Mood or atmosphere –

**PLOT**

a)  Exposition -

b)  Inciting Incident -

c) Rising Action –

d)  Climax –

e)  Falling action -

f)  Resolution –

**CONFLICT**

*Types*:

1)  External –

2)  Internal -

*Kinds:*

1)  Man vs. Man (physical) –

2)  Man vs. Nature –

3)  Man vs. Society (social) –

4)  Man vs. Himself/Herself (psychological) -

**CHARACTER**

1. Give one direct characterization of the main character.
2. Give **two** indirect characterizations of the main character, and explain how you know this.

Trait a.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Reason:

Trait b.\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Reason:

***Which characters from the story fit these descriptions and why?***

1.  Round –

2.  Dynamic –

3.  Static –

4. Flat –

**POINT OF VIEW** -- Point of view, or p.o.v., is defined as the angle from which the story is told. Circle which point of view is reflective of the story you read, and write a sentence explaining why this is the best choice.

1.  *First Person*

2.  *Third person (omniscient or limited)*

**IRONY** – the unexpected “twist” to a story.

Type:

When was it used in the story?

**THEME** -- Describe the theme of the story you read in a couple of words, then, in two to three sentences, explain why these words best describe the theme. Remember to look for Universal Human Experience

One possible theme of this story

is\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The reason is because: