# Pathways to a Theme

**When you have read your chosen story, respond to the following questions:**

1. What is happening in the story? Answer in point form or full sentences.
* There is a boy, who is explaining to the reader that nothing in life comes easy. He brang up different struggles of many significant people in the world and showed us that even they had challenges to overcome.
1. Identify and describe the conflict in the story.
* There were and are people in the world that told them they couldn’t accomplish there goals.
* There is no leadership in the world or encouragement. People don’t want to see others become succesful.
1. Brainstorm words or phrases that connect to the class discussion on the human condition.
* “others may try to force you to ignore your principles. Stand your ground.” I think this makes someone a good leader because they are sticking with what they believe.
* “no you arenot smart enouch”
1. **What are 2-3 the themes or big idea of the story? Create a theme statement**.

-You can create a theme statement by using the formula **topic+treatment (+/-) = result**. Eg. In Macbeth, one could say that “ambition + too much = destruction”. Therefore the theme statement would be “*Too much ambition can lead to destruction*”

**-A theme statement has** **no absolutes, no cliches and no conversational language**. Eg. “*I think its to never judge a book by its cover”* **is NOT a good theme statement.**

Topic chasing your dreams + without support or encouragment from others treatment(+/-) = can be challenging result

Theme Statement: chasing your dreams without support can be challenging.

Topic following another path than others + having everyone think you are not capable of that path treatment(+/-) can make you think that path is not the right one for you. = result

Theme Statement: following another path than others and having others think you are not capable of that path can make you think that path is not the right one for you.

Topic working hard for what you believe in + Perceveering through harship/ investing time in what you need = achieving your goal.

Theme Statement

If you work hard for what you believe in, and perceveer through hard times, you will be able to achieve you goal.

1. **Change the theme statements into a deep questions.** Eg. *What can be the result of too much ambition?* OR *Can too much ambition lead to destruction?*
* **Can too much critizism from others lead you to give up on your future dreams and plans.**