PH Lit Weekly Packet

"Zoo" by Edward Hoch

PH Lit Pages 336-342

Due: Friday, Dec. 12, 2014

(test on Friday on the story!)
“Zoo” by Edward D. Hoch

Vocabulary Warm-up Word Lists

Study these words from “Zoo.” Then, apply your knowledge to the activities that follow.

Word List A

breed [BREED] n. a particular kind or type of animal or plant
Alexander’s favorite breed of dog is the golden retriever.

clutching [CLUHCH ing] v. holding on to something tightly
Kevin was clutching his new baseball mitt to his chest.

constantly [KAHN stuhnt lee] adv. happening over and over; endlessly; continually
The annoying child was constantly whining about something.

horrors [HAHR uhhrz] n. things that cause a strong feeling of fear or disgust
The novel The Red Badge of Courage tells of the horrors of war.

limit [LIM it] n. the greatest number or amount allowed
The speed limit on this highway is fifty-five miles per hour.

odd [AHD] adj. not usual or ordinary; peculiar; strange
The animal's odd behavior worried the zookeeper.

scurried [SKER eed] v. ran quickly or hastily; scampere
The mouse scurried across the floor, fleeing from the cat.

seeking [SEEK ing] v. searching for; looking for
Seeking answers to her questions, Justine did research online.

Word List B

adults [uh DULTS] n. mature persons
Adults pay twice as much as children for the movie.

annual [AN yoo uhl] adj. happening or appearing once a year
The bake sale is an annual fund-raising event at our school.

awe [AW] n. a mixed feeling of respect, fear, and wonder
The eruption of the volcano inspired awe in the scientists.

clustered [KLUS terd] v. gathered together as a bunch
The baby chicks clustered around their mother.

daybreak [DAY brayk] n. dawn; the time of morning when daylight first appears
The farmer was up at daybreak to milk the cows.

expense [ek SPENS] n. financial cost; fee
The fancy dinner was not worth the expense.

jagged [JAG id] adj. having sharp points or notches
Dominic used the jagged rock to cut the branch into firewood.

reveal [ri VEEL] v. to expose to view; show; exhibit; display
Charlotte opened the curtains to reveal the spectacular view.
Exercise A  Fill in each blank in the paragraph below with an appropriate word from Word List A. Use each word only once.

Although she had been dealing with the [1] ________________ of training a puppy that [2] ________________ misbehaved, Carla decided she wanted another pet. She did some research on cats and found out about a [3] ________________ she liked. She spent many weeks [4] ________________ a Manx cat. The Manx is an [5] ________________ cat—it does not have a tail. Finally, she heard there was one at the pet shop. Carla [6] ________________ over there as quickly as she could. The price of the cat was a little over the [7] ________________ she had set for herself. Carla was [8] ________________ her money in her hand when she decided that the expense was worth it. She was sure her puppy would love the tail-less cat.

Exercise B  Answer the questions with complete explanations.

Example: If Mr. Greene detests spinach, would he enjoy having it with dinner?
No; detests means “dislikes intensely,” so Mr. Greene would not enjoy eating spinach.

1. If something is an expense, are you likely to get it for free?

2. If you reveal a secret, are others likely to hear about it?

3. If you attend an annual family gathering, do you go to it every month?

4. If you walk barefoot on jagged rocks, are you likely to cut your feet?

5. If only adults are invited to a party, could your grandparents go to it?

6. If you were in awe of something, would you be bored by it?

7. If plants are clustered in a garden, are they scattered around the garden?

8. If you want to be awake at daybreak, would you get up at 9 A.M.?
Word List
awe    babbled    expense    garments    interplanetary    wonderment

A. DIRECTIONS: Complete each sentence with a word from the Word List.

1. The ____________ of interplanetary travel was high, but Professor Hugo earned the money back by charging admission to his zoo.

2. The crowd gazed in ____________ at the terrifying yet unusual creatures.

3. Professor Hugo's ____________ zoo visited Earth, Mars, Kaan, and many other planets.

4. The creature's wife ____________ happily as she greeted her husband and asked him about his trip.

5. The creatures did not wear clothes, so the ____________ the humans wore seemed unnatural.

6. The children's ____________ only increased as the strange array of creatures paraded before them.

B. WORD STUDY The suffix -ment means "the state of." Answer each of the following questions using one of these words containing -ment: amusements, contentment, entertainment.

1. What type of television show would you watch for entertainment?

2. Would you expect a child to complain about her contentment?

3. What amusements might a toddler enjoy?
Reading: Make Inferences by Reading Between the Lines and Asking Questions

An inference is an intelligent guess, based on what the text tells you, about things not stated directly in the text. Suppose a story opens with crowds forming to wait for the arrival of an interplanetary zoo. You can infer from those details that the zoo will soon arrive.

One way to make inferences is to read between the lines by asking questions, such as, “Why does the writer include these details?” and “Why does the writer leave out certain information?” In the opening sentence of “Zoo,” for example, we learn that “the children were always good during the month of August.” The next thing we learn is that the Interplanetary Zoo comes to Chicago every year around August 23. Why does the writer open his story with these details? What conclusion can be drawn about why the children are always good in August? From these details you can infer that the children are good in August because they want their parents to take them to the interplanetary zoo.

DIRECTIONS: Read the following passages from “Zoo,” and answer the questions that follow.

1. In the following passage, what inference can you draw from the detail that the people are clutching dollars?
   Before daybreak the crowds would form, long lines of children and adults both, each one clutching his or her dollar and waiting with wonderment to see what race of strange creatures the Professor had brought this year.

2. In the following passage, what inference can you draw about the Professor from the description of his clothing?
   Soon the good Professor himself made an appearance, wearing his many-colored rainbow cape and top hat.

3. In the following passage, what inference can you draw about the horse spiders from the way they file out of their cages, listen to Hugo’s parting words, and then scurry away?
   The odd horse-spider creatures filed quickly out of their cages. Professor Hugo was there to say a few parting words, and then they scurried away in a hundred different directions, seeking their homes among the rocks.

4. In the following passage, what inference can you draw from the she-creature’s reaction to her mate and offspring’s arrival?
   In one house, the she-creature was happy to see the return of her mate and offspring. She babbled a greeting in the strange tongue and hurried to embrace them.
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Literary Analysis: Theme

A story's **theme** is its central idea, message, or insight into life. Occasionally, the author states the theme directly. More often, however, the theme is implied.

A theme is **not** the same as the subject of a work. For example, if the subject, or topic, of a story is similarities and differences, the theme will be a message about that subject, such as "differences between groups of people can keep people from seeing the ways in which they are similar."

As you read, look at what characters say and do, where the story takes place, and objects that seem important in order to determine the theme—what the author wants to teach you about life.

**DIRECTIONS:** **Answer the following questions about “Zoo.”**

1. What is the setting? If there is more than one setting, name and briefly describe each one.

   ______________________________________________________
   ______________________________________________________

2. What do the main characters say? Summarize the words spoken by Hugo, one of the people from Earth, the female horse spider, the male horse spider, and the little one.

   Hugo: ______________________________________________________

   Person from Earth: ____________________________________________

   She-creature: ________________________________________________

   He-creature: ________________________________________________

   Little creature: _____________________________________________

3. How do the characters act? Describe the actions of the people in Chicago and the actions of the horse-spider creatures.

   People in Chicago: __________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________

   Horse spiders: ______________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________

4. What object or objects seem important?

   ______________________________________________________

5. What is the subject, or topic, of “Zoo”?

   ______________________________________________________

6. Based on these details, what would you say is the theme of “Zoo”?

   ______________________________________________________
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Open-Book Test

Short Answer Write your responses to the questions in this section on the lines provided.

1. In "Zoo," ten thousand people crowd in to see Professor Hugo's zoo while it is in Chicago. What can you infer from this large turnout?

2. In "Zoo," Professor Hugo is described as wearing a "many-colored rainbow cape and top hat." What can you infer about the professor from these details of his appearance? Explain how you made your inference.

3. Professor Hugo tells the crowd, "And if you enjoyed our zoo this year, telephone your friends in other cities about it." What do these words reveal about Professor Hugo's reasons for putting on his show?

4. In the chart below, write an inference you can make from each detail in the story "Zoo."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Inferences</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;And the crowds slowly filed by, at once horrified and fascinated by these strange creatures...&quot;</td>
<td>The he-creature says the zoo is well worth the cost.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From these details, what can you infer about the meaning of the title of the story?
5. In "Zoo," the author at first describes the creatures from Kaan as a "wild breed of nightmare." How is this different from the way he describes them later in the story, as they appear on their home planet?

6. Toward the end of "Zoo," one of the creatures from Kaan says that he was not afraid of the Earth people because there "are bars to protect us from them." How does this comment help illustrate an important theme of the story?

7. In "Zoo," one of the Kaan creatures comments that the Earth creatures "wear garments over their skins, and they walk on two legs." If the Kaan creatures find this behavior strange, what can you infer about what seems normal to the Kaan creatures?

8. Both the Earth people and the Kaan creatures agree that this Zoo was the best ever. How does their agreement on this point help illustrate an important theme of the story?

9. In "Zoo," why do Earth visitors to the zoo feel awe in the presence of the horse spiders? Base your answer on the meaning of _awe_.

10. Professor Hugo's zoo is _interplanetary_. How does this word tell in what way the zoo travels?