



Activity One

Debate

The Resolution:

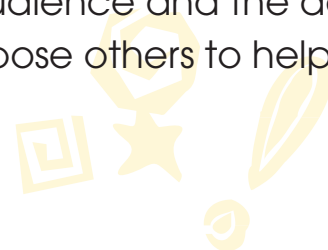
Luke should stay with his family instead of taking on a false identity and going to boarding school.

The Roles:

- The debate could take place between two students, or two teams of students.
- The **For Team** will argue **for** the **Resolution**.
- The **Against Team** will argue **against** the **Resolution**.
- Each team may choose a speaker, or they may rotate speakers.
- All team members must help to write the arguments and rebuttals, or counter-arguments.
- You will also need a judge. The judge will make sure that each side has an equal amount of time to present their arguments. The judge will also decide which team's arguments were the most persuasive.

Debate Format:

- 1. For Team** says whether they are for or against the Resolution. Then they give three or four reasons why. These are called supporting arguments.
- 2. Against Team** says whether they are for or against the Resolution. Then they give three or four supporting arguments.
- 3. The judge** gives each team time to write their rebuttals, or counter-arguments.
- 4. Against Team** states their rebuttal and thanks the audience and the adjudicator.
- 5. For Team** states their rebuttal and thanks the audience and the adjudicator.
- 6. Judge** announces a winner. (The judge can choose others to help make the decision, but the helpers can't be debaters.)





Activity Two

Is *Among the Hidden* a Dystopian Novel?

Most novels fall into a genre, or type. Some genres: adventure, mystery, horror, science fiction, romance, fantasy, utopian, dystopian. Some people might say that *Among the Hidden* is a dystopian novel.

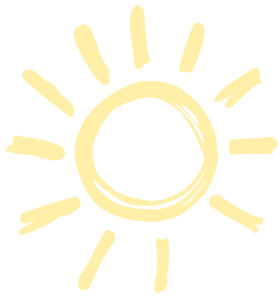
What is a **dystopian** novel? Canadian writer Margaret Atwood says:

“Dystopian fiction offers a vision of the future. Dystopias are societies in cataclysmic decline, with characters who battle environmental ruin, technological control, and government oppression. Dystopian novels can challenge readers to think differently about current social and political climates, and in some instances can even inspire action.”

Write a 6-paragraph essay:

1. *Among the Hidden* has all (or some) of the elements of dystopian fiction. For example...
2. Give examples showing how the government controls people in the novel.
3. Give examples showing how technology is being used to control people in the novel.
4. Give examples showing how the natural environment is in trouble in the novel.
5. Give examples showing how society is in decline in the novel. For instance, are a lot of people struggling to survive? Are they being treated unfairly?
6. Conclusion: Do you think *Among the Hidden* is an example of dystopian fiction? Did *Among the Hidden* make you think about the society you live in? Has it made you want do something to try to make things better? Explain.

NAME: _____



Activity Three

Dystopian Novel Book Review



Among the Hidden could be described as a dystopian novel.

With the approval of your teacher, select one of the books from the list below (or one not listed but approved by your teacher). Read the book and then write a review.

Some Dystopian Novels to Choose From:

- Melanie Crowder, *Parched* © 2013
- Tui T. Sutherland, *The Lost Continent* © 2018
- Fiona Shaw, *Outwalkers* © 2018
- Adina Gewirtz, *Blue Window* © 2018
- Devon Hughes, *Unnaturals: The Battle Begins* © 2015
- Michael Ford, *Forgotten City* © 2018
- Lee Bacon, *The Last Human* © 2019
- Ronald Kidd, *Dreambender* © 2016
- Lois Lowry, *The Giver* © 1993
- Laura Martin, *The Ark Plan* © 2016

Your review should contain 4 paragraphs:

1. State the title and author of the novel you read. Describe the setting.
2. Briefly describe the main characters in the novel. State which character you related to or liked the most and explain why.
3. Without giving away the ending, briefly describe the plot: What main challenges did the main character or characters have to overcome in the novel?
4. State which novel you preferred—the one you just read, or *Among the Hidden*, and explain why.

NAME: _____



Activity Four

Write a Script



Write a script for a scene from *Among the Hidden*. Use your script to act out the scene or to direct others as they act out the scene.

Your script should contain dialog and stage directions. Follow this format:

Opening Stage Directions:

There is a bed at center stage. Granny is lying in bed. She is wearing a cap, a nightgown and glasses. She has the bedcovers pulled up to her eyes. She is snoring quietly.

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD:

(Wearing red hood and cape and carrying basket. Enters stage left and knocks on imaginary door. Stagehand makes knocking sound.)

Granny! It's Little Red Riding Hood! I have some goodies for you. May I come in?

GRANNY:

(Makes a sound, as if startled out of sleep.)

Oh, my dear. Please come in! The door is unlocked!



A live performance of *Don Quixote*



A live performance of *Chicago*



Activity Five

An Alternate Ending



This activity can be done individually or in small groups.

There are sequels to *Among the Hidden*. Don't read them until you have completed this assignment!

What if? What if Luke had gone to the rally with Jen? What if the rally had been successful? Is it possible that Jen is actually still alive somewhere? Is it possible that Jen's parents actually do know Luke's parents and they had been looking for a way to free both Jen and Luke? Could Luke's brothers Matthew and Mark be involved somehow?

Steps to Writing an Alternate Ending for *Among the Hidden*:

1. Working with a group or alone, brainstorm as many alternate endings as possible. You can use the questions above to get the ideas flowing and/or generate your own questions.
2. Choose a few of your favorite ideas to explore further. If working in a group, each member could take one idea and write about it in as much detail as possible.
3. Compile your ideas and write your alternate ending.
4. Read your alternate ending to another student or group and ask for feedback.
5. You may wish to revise your alternate ending, using the feedback you received.
6. Optional: Read the next novel in the series. How does it compare to your alternate ending?

Next in the Shadow Children Series:

2. *Among the Imposters*
3. *Among the Betrayed*
4. *Among the Barons*

5. *Among the Brave*
6. *Among the Enemy*
7. *Among the Free*



Activity Six

Luke's New Life?



At the end of *Among the Hidden*, Luke thinks about how he wants to make a difference in the world. How do you think Luke might make a difference? What are some new technologies that he might use? Do some research. Use your research to write about Luke's new life.

Vertical Hydroponics

The vegetables grow on shelves. That saves a lot of space! Farmers can grow vegetables in cold countries, even in the winter. How do the plants stay warm? Where do the plants get light and water?



Lettuce growing in a vertical hydroponics garden.

You can learn more by searching "vertical hydroponics" online.

It takes a lot of energy to grow plants inside during winter. Energy is needed to give the plants heat, light and water.

People are starting to use more renewable energy sources. What are some renewable energy sources Luke might use in his new life? This picture shows solar and wind. Do some research. Can you find other examples?



Examples of renewable energy.

Imagine what kind of house Luke might live in as an adult. This house was made using 3-D printers and soil.

For more planet-friendly housing ideas, search "carbon-neutral houses" or "net zero houses".



3-D printed clay house.