

CHAPTER I

Vocabulary: Synonyms are words with similar meanings. Draw a line from each word in column A to its synonym in column B. Then use the words in column A to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
1. prudent	a. payment
2. blunder	b. mythical
3. legendary	c. stubbornly
4. haughty	d. parts broken off; small pieces
5. audacious	e. wise
6. fragments	f. showing great pride in oneself and disdain for others
7. obstinately	g. daring
8. remuneration	h. careless or stupid mistake

-
- I was accused of being _____ when I suggested we go skydiving on my birthday.
 - It is _____ to save part of your allowance each week.
 - Their enemy's strength was _____, causing the smaller army to flee in retreat.
 - After working overtime every night this week, I expected extra _____.
 - No matter how much we coaxed him, my little brother _____ refused to go to bed.
 - The servers at the new restaurant were so _____ that no one wanted to return for another meal.
 - I knew it was a(n) _____ to ask my aunt her age when I saw her blush and hesitate to answer.
 - The scientists could reconstruct an entire dinosaur just by finding _____ of its skeleton.

Questions:

- Why did Gandalf come to the home of Bilbo Baggins?
- How did the dwarves lose their treasure?
- What did you learn about Bilbo Baggins' character when the dwarves entered his home?
- What awakened "Tookish" feelings inside Bilbo Baggins? What were some of the Tookish and some of the Baggin elements in Bilbo?

Notes:

Chapter I (cont.)

5. What happened when Mr. Baggins turned the handle and went in?
6. How did Gandalf get Bilbo to agree to join the dwarves?

Questions for Discussion:

1. Would you like to meet a hobbit? Do you think a hobbit would be happy to meet you?
2. Is your own character more like that of the Baggins or the Tooks? Which kind of character do you seek as a friend?
3. Do you think Bilbo will be able to rise to the challenge presented to him?

Literary Devices:

- I. *Point of View*—Point of view in literature refers to the voice telling the story. It could be one of the characters or the author as narrator. What is the point of view in this story?

How would you characterize this voice?

- II. *Simile*—A simile is a figure of speech in which a comparison between two unlike objects is stated directly, using the words “like” or “as.” For example:

The poor little hobbit could be seen kneeling on the hearth-rug, shaking like a jelly that was melting.

What is being compared?

What is the effect of this comparison?

Notes:

Chapter I (cont.)

Literary Element: Reality vs. Fantasy

Use the chart below to show what seems real and what seems like fantasy in the world of hobbits. Why do you think there are some aspects of reality in the lives of the hobbits?

Reality	Fantasy

Writing Activities:

1. Imagine you are Bilbo Baggins and write a journal entry expressing your conflicting emotions on the day that the dwarves arrived at your home.
2. Bilbo made several statements which he later regretted. Write about a time when you made a statement you later regretted.

Notes:

CHAPTERS II – IV

Vocabulary: Draw a line from each word on the left to its meaning on the right. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. palpitate | a. rob goods by force, especially in times of war |
| 2. deception | b. ritual repetitions of charms or spells |
| 3. shirk | c. thought of with respect; prized |
| 4. esteemed | d. personal belongings; gear |
| 5. plunder | e. shake; quiver |
| 6. gnash | f. concealment; distortion |
| 7. incantation | g. put off; avoid |
| 8. paraphernalia | h. grind; strike together |
-

1. Knowing I would never _____ the responsibility, my friend trusted me to walk her dog each day she was gone.
2. I felt my heart _____ when I realized I didn't know any of the answers on the quiz.
3. The clown barely squeezed into the car with all the _____ necessary for his act.
4. A master of _____, the magician made it seem as if his subject had been sawed in half.
5. First the fierce dog began to _____ his teeth together, then he attacked.
6. Cold, hungry, and without shelter, the victims looked at the results of the _____ of their town.
7. The generous and caring couple were _____ by all who knew them.
8. As she stirred her bubbling brew, the witch uttered _____ to cast a spell upon her enemies.

Questions:

1. Why did Bilbo follow the dwarves' commands?
2. Why might a hobbit such as Bilbo make an excellent burglar?
3. Why were the captured dwarves in great danger from the trolls?
4. What caused the trolls' downfall?

Notes:

Chapters II – IV (cont.)

5. Why was Bilbo disappointed that Gandalf would not let him visit with the elves?
6. Why did the expedition stay at Elrond's home for as long as fourteen days?
7. What important clue did Elrond find and what particular knowledge did he use to find it?
8. Why did the expedition take shelter in the cave?
9. Why were the goblins furious when they saw the sword Thorin had worn?

Questions for Discussion:

1. Did you find the trolls to be a frightening threat, a humorous diversion, or both?
2. Do you think the dwarves and Bilbo will ever return to claim the treasure they plundered from the trolls?
3. What special qualities do you think Gandalf possessed which enabled him to rescue his friends?

Literary Devices:

- I. *Personification*—Personification refers to a literary device in which the author endows inanimate objects with human qualities or actions. For example:

Boulders, too, at times came galloping down the mountain-sides,
let loose by midday sun upon the snow. . .

What is being personified?

How does this help you visualize the scene?

Find another example of personification. Provide page number.

Notes:

Chapters II – IV (cont.)

- II. *Foreshadowing*—Foreshadowing refers to the clues an author provides to suggest what will happen later in the story. What did the following passage foreshadow?

That, of course, is the dangerous part of caves: you don't know how far they go back, sometimes, or where a passage may lead to, or what is waiting for you inside.

Art Connection:

Tolkien never described the appearance of the goblins. Use your imagination to draw a goblin. Compare our imagined goblins with those of your classmates.

Writing Activity:

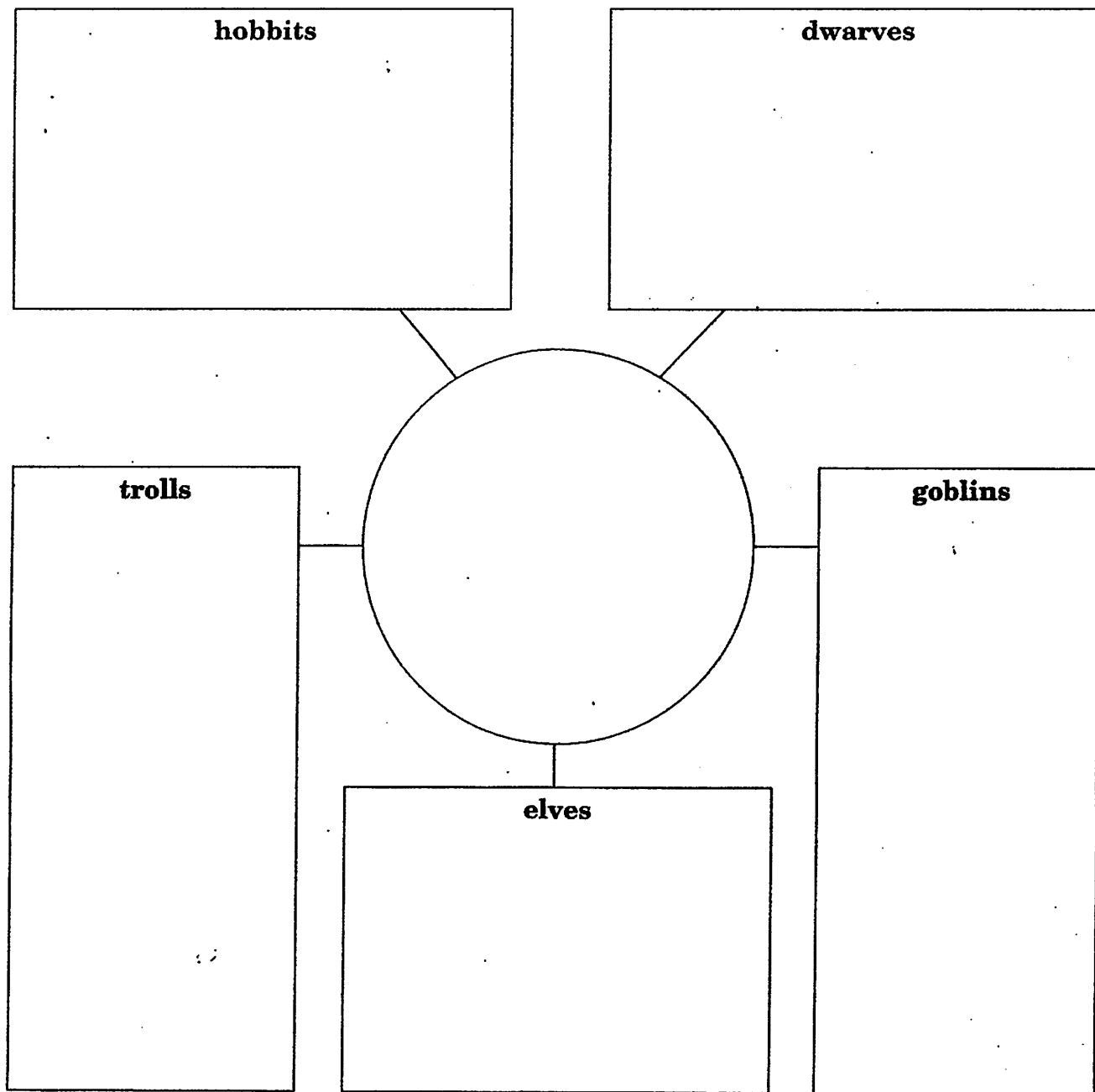
Use the device of personification to enhance a written description of a scene that is familiar to you.

Notes:

Chapters II – IV (cont.)

Literary Element: Characterization

Use the diagram below to compare the characteristics of hobbits, dwarves, trolls, elves, and goblins. Record the characteristics they have in common in the center circle.



Notes:

CHAPTERS V – VII

Vocabulary: Draw a line from each word on the left to its definition on the right. Then use the numbered words to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. subterranean | a. belonging to the past; not modern |
| 2. antique | b. causing dismay or horror |
| 3. appalling | c. undergoing mental or emotional strain |
| 4. stark | d. area overgrown with ferns and shrubs |
| 5. trestle | e. harsh; grim; desolate |
| 6. bracken | f. underground |
| 7. morsel | g. small bite or portion, as of food |
| 8. tense | h. bridge made of horizontal bars resting on A-frames |

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1. We felt the _____ sway beneath our feet as we walked across during the storm.
2. Everyone huddled in the _____ tunnels, hoping to protect themselves from the approaching tornado.
3. Even though I was well prepared, I became _____ as the moment of the gymnastics competition drew near.
4. There wasn't a tree or a flower to brighten the appearance of the _____ landscape.
5. I prefer the charm and coziness of _____ furniture to the efficiency of new objects.
6. My dog is so small, it survives on only a(n) _____ of food each day.
7. The _____ hid the long-unused road to our cabin in the woods.
8. No one could forget the _____ scene of overturned cars and wounded passengers at the site of the accident.

Questions:

1. In what condition did Bilbo find himself when he regained consciousness?
2. Why did Bilbo play a riddle game with Gollum?
3. What did Bilbo learn about the ring from Gollum's mutterings?
4. How did Bilbo escape from the dark place?
5. Why did Gandalf have a strong allegiance toward Bilbo?

Notes:

Chapters V – VII (cont.)

6. Why didn't Bilbo tell the dwarves about the magic ring?
7. Why did the wolves flee from the area where the dwarves were hiding?
8. How did Bilbo and the dwarves escape the fire in the trees?
9. What caused Gandalf to decide that it was time to leave the quest?
10. Why was Beorn called a "skin changer"?
11. Why was Beorn willing to help Gandalf and the others?

Questions for Discussion:

1. Which magical creature that you have come upon in the story so far is the scariest? Which is the most likeable?
2. Why do you think the author found it necessary to have Gandalf leave the expedition?
3. What do you think Bilbo had achieved through his trait of cleverness?
4. Do you think that Bilbo and the dwarves will accomplish their goal without Gandalf to help?

Literary Element: Characterization

Use a chart, such as the one below, to provide examples of the growth in wisdom, courage, and initiative shown by the dwarves and by Bilbo.

	Dwarves	Bilbo
wisdom		
courage		
initiative		

Writing Activities:

1. Reread the first two pages of Chapter VII. Using this descriptive passage as a model, write your own descriptive passage in which you imagine you are flying over and landing in your neighborhood.
2. Write about a goal or a destination that you wish to reach. Enumerate the skills which allow you to achieve this. Explain whether you think you can reach this goal and how its achievement might change your life.

Notes:

CHAPTERS VIII – X

Vocabulary: Use the context to figure out the meaning of the underlined word in each of the following sentences. Compare your definitions with dictionary definitions.

- As Bilbo's sharp inquisitive eyes became used to the dark, he could see the dwarves hiding behind the trees.
- Bombur continued to sleep with a smile on his face, no longer caring for all the problems that vexed them.
- The portcullis was often open, allowing a lot of traffic to go in and out near the water-gate.
- The wine was so potent it made the wood-elf drowsy.
- An ominous nod in the direction of the mountain signaled to us that there was a dangerous dragon lurking there.
- The Master, looking forward to peace in the land, wished for no enmity between himself and the more powerful Elvenking.

Word	Your Definition	Dictionary Definition
1. inquisitive		
2. vexed		
3. portcullis		
4. potent		
5. ominous		
6. enmity		

Questions:

1. Why did the Hobbit and dwarves neglect to follow the advice given by Beorn and Gandalf?
2. What role did luck play in the rescue of the dwarves?
3. What experiences in the forest caused Bilbo to have an improved self-concept?
4. What misunderstanding caused the dwarves to be imprisoned?
5. Why didn't Thorin want the Elvenking to know about his quest?
6. What was Bilbo's first job a a burglar?
7. Describe Bilbo's plan for escape. When did luck help?

Notes:

Chapters VIII – X (cont.)

8. What news did Gandalf receive that made him decide to rejoin Bilbo?
9. What were the attitudes of the inhabitants of Lake-town toward Thorin's mission? How did their attitudes compare with those of their Master and of the Elvenking?
10. Why did the Master help Thorin and his group? How did he help them?

Questions for Discussion:

1. What special qualities do you think Bilbo and Thorin possessed that caused them to emerge as leaders of the group?
2. In Chapter Eight, Tolkien wrote, "... if Bilbo had had the sense to see it. . . ." What do you think Tolkien meant by this statement?
3. Who do you think had a more realistic attitude toward the mission—Bilbo or the dwarves?

Literary Element: Characterization

Bilbo had many skills which emerged during his experiences in the forest. Use the chart below to describe some of them and tell how they helped him.

Bilbo's Skill	How It Helped

Writing Activity:

Imagine you are Bilbo Baggins. Choose one of your adventures and write a journal entry describing your thoughts and feelings immediately after the adventure ended.

Notes:

CHAPTERS XI – XIII

Vocabulary: Analogies are equations in which the first pair of words has the same relationship as the second pair of words. For example: COMEDY is to TRAGEDY as COMMENCE is to CONCLUDE. Both pairs of words are opposites. Choose the best word from the Word Box to complete each of the analogies below.

WORD BOX			
coward	lair	pallid	waning
crannies	marauding	perilous	

1. INCREASING is to DECREASING as WAXING is to _____.
2. BEAR is to DEN as COUGAR is to _____.
3. CAREFUL is to CAUTIOUS as DANGEROUS is to _____.
4. HEALING is to DOCTORS as _____ is to BANDITS.
5. FORESTS is to WOODS as _____ is to CREVICES.
6. VIBRANT is to _____ as BRAVE is to COWARDLY.
7. CRINGED is to _____ as NAPPED is to DOZED.

Questions:

1. What happened to permit Thorin to fit the key into the hole? What rune and moon letters letters prophesied this?
2. How did the dwarves let Bilbo down? How did Bilbo differ from the dwarves?
3. What was meant by “the desire of dwarves”?
4. What was the one useful thing that Bilbo learned as a result of his second encounter with the dragon?
5. Why did Bilbo take the Arkenstone? What were his feelings when he took it?
6. Why did the dwarves take so much treasure from the dragon’s lair?
7. Why did the dwarves and Bilbo leave the palace? How did Balin and Thorin know how to escape?

Notes:

Chapters XI – XIII (cont.)

Questions for Discussion:

1. What enabled Bilbo to become so brave?
2. What is true courage?
3. What was the real battle Bilbo fought in the tunnel?

Writing Activity:

Bilbo calls himself by many names. Use the chart below to describe the adventure that led to each name. The first one has been done for you.

Bilbo's Name	Adventure
Clue-finder	discovery of the knocking thrush at the tunnel-gate
Web-cutter	
Stinging fly	
Chosen for the lucky number	
Buries his friends alive	
No bag went over me	
Friend of bears	
Guest of eagles	
Ringwinner	
Barrel-rider	

Now write about an adventure you might have. Choose an appropriate name for yourself.

Notes:

CHAPTERS XIV – XVI

Vocabulary: Use the words in the Word Box and the clues below to solve the crossword puzzle.

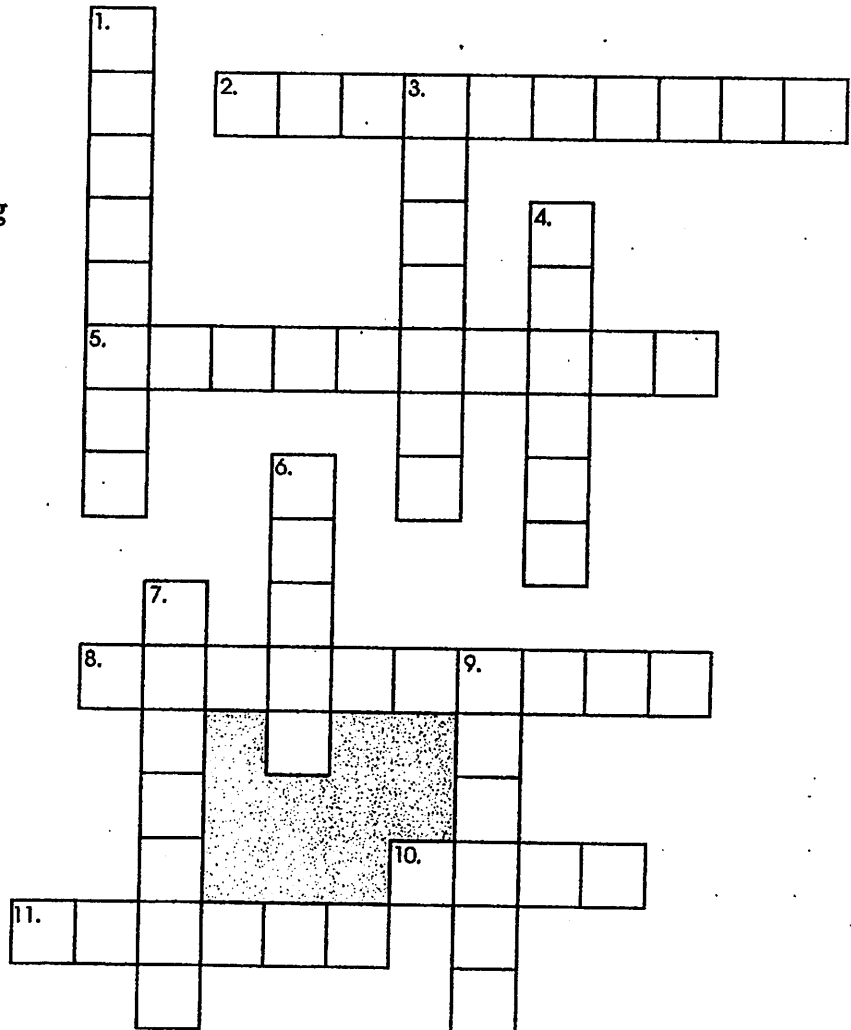
<i>WORD BOX</i>			
amends	coveted	eminent	laden
bade	decrepit	foiled	prophecies
benefactor	dreary	foreboding	

Across

- 2. one who gives financial or other aid
- 5. predictions; revelations
- 8. foretelling; giving warning
- 10. past tense of bid
- 11. reparations or payments made as satisfaction for insult or injury

Down

- 1. weakened by old age, illness or hard use
- 3. towering above others; outstanding
- 4. prevented from being successful
- 6. weighed down with a load
- 7. wished for excessively
- 9. gloomy



Notes:

Chapters XIV – XVI (cont.)

Questions:

1. What did the burglar's title "Barrel-rider" indicate to Smaug?
2. Bard showed his skill and intelligence by instructing the villagers to cut the bridges and by slaying the dragon. What part did his lineage play in his success?
3. Why did the Master reveal that "I am the last man . . ." Of whom is he speaking? Why did he make this statement at this particular time?
4. What were the differences between the Master and Bard? What leadership qualities did each have? Who killed Smaug?
5. Why did the Elvenking decide to leave home and travel to Esgarath?
6. Why was Bilbo willing to end his quest with the killing of Smaug, while Thorin was not?
7. What did Bombur mean when he said that Thorin was a dwarf with a stiff neck?

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you think of the advice given to Thorin by Roac, son of Carc? Would you have followed the advice? Reviewing all that has happened so far, evaluate Bard's position. Do you agree with his requests? How does his approach to Thorin compare with Thorin's responses? What qualities of leadership did both display?
2. In handing over the Arkenstone to Bard, Bilbo exhibited the most noble kind of heroism. Discuss Bilbo's character. What character traits permitted this act of nobility?

Writing Activity:

Think about some real people you know or have read about who are leaders. What qualities of leadership do they display? Choose one person and write a character sketch about that person in which you describe leadership qualities as well as other characteristics.

Notes:

CHAPTERS XVII – XIX

Vocabulary: Choose the best word from the Word Box to complete each of the analogies below.

WORD BOX		
alter	content	ponder
casket	onslaught	wrath

1. BRAID is to PLAIT as CHANGE is to _____.
2. TRUMPET is to BRASS as _____ is to WOOD.
3. ANGER is to _____ as CONFUSION is to BEWILDERMENT.
4. DECEIT is to HONESTY as CONCLUDE is to _____.
5. SURRENDER is to _____ as GATHER is to DISPERSE.
6. _____ is to ECSTATIC as SAD is to DEPRESSED.

Questions:

1. What did Thorin promise Bard in exchange for the Arkenstone?
2. Why did Dain's army attack first?
3. Why did the Elvenking set aside his anger at Thorin and decide that he would not begin a war for gold?
4. Why did Dain agree to join with Bard and the Elvenking when Gandalf said it was time for council?
5. What was the Goblins' behavior toward their own during the onslaught?
6. Why did Bilbo stand on Ravenhill with the elves at the end of the battle?
7. In what spirit did Dain give his gifts? How did this differ from Thorin's promises?
8. What did the elf poem reveal about the hobbit's feelings?
9. What happened to Bilbo's reputation as a result of his adventures?
10. Why didn't Bilbo Baggins visit with his friends in the North?

Notes:

Chapters XVII – XIX (cont.)

Questions for Discussion:

1. Do you think Thorin's quest was fulfilled? Why do you think his death was necessary? Do you think he deserved the reader's admiration?
2. Do you agree with Bilbo's thought that "he made a great mess of that business with the stone"?

Writing Activity:

A quest is a search made to secure an object or achieve a goal. In the Middle Ages an adventure undertaken by a knight or knights was called a "Quest." In what ways may Bilbo's adventures be seen as a "Quest" story? Write a short essay describing Bilbo's quest and tell how he matured during the course of his quest.

Notes: