

Name: _____ Date: _____

Exploring Mood

Mood is the feeling you get from reading a piece of writing. Another way to describe mood is *atmosphere*. When you walk into a place, it has an atmosphere that makes you feel a certain way; when you “walk into” a story, it too has an atmosphere that creates a feeling. Writers create mood through word choice, imagery, dialogue, setting, and plot.

Directions: Open your magazine to Scene 4 of *The Interlopers*. Reread the scene, then answer the questions below using details from the scene to support your answers.

Mood Words

lighthearted, intense, touching, gloomy, suspenseful, relaxed, threatening

Scene 4

1. Describe the mood of Scene 4. Choose a few words from the box of mood words above or come up with your own words.

Mood of Scene 4: _____

2. Explain what creates that mood by answering the questions below.

A. How does the plot help create the mood? In other words, what is going on, and how does that help create the mood you named?

B. How does the setting help create the mood? Think about how the place and time during which the scene takes place create an atmosphere that makes the reader feel a certain way.

Now imagine that you are the director of a movie version of *The Interlopers*. Your job is to visualize the script and then direct your crew and actors in fulfilling your vision. Follow the prompts below to brainstorm your vision for a scene of your choosing.

Start here!
→

Choose your favorite scene:
Scene ____

What mood do you want to create for this scene? Will the mood be just like in the play? Will you amp it up? Go in a different direction?

Describe the mood (or moods) of your scene.

What kind of music would help create the mood you want? How about sound effects?

Music and Sound

What lighting choices can help create the mood you want?

Lighting

Which expressions should the cameras be sure to capture? Should there be any special camera movements?

Cameras

What direction will you give each actor on the emotions he or she should be communicating?

Actors

What other elements will help create the mood of your scene? Jot down any notes on props, hair and makeup, costumes, or anything else.

Other Ideas