

## **JOURNAL WRITING:**

Think of something you are dealing with now. Go back to the beginning and write down why this situation occurred. The teacher will have four volunteers write their flashback on a sheet of chart paper.

## **CRAFTING THE LESSON:**

**(Me)(We)** The teacher will tell the students that flashback breaks the present action of the story to reveal an event from an earlier time. Flashbacks provide background information to help readers understand the story. The teacher will display the flashbacks on the chart paper in the front of the room. The volunteers will one at a time tell the story that accompanies his/her flashback. The students will match the story with the flashback.

**COMPOSING MEANING: (Two)** The teacher will put the students into groups of four. The group will be given worksheet 52. They will use the flashback to answer the questions on worksheet 53. **(You)** The students will search through the story, *Blinded by Colors* and write down a flashback and the page number. They will then answer the questions on page 54.

# FLASHBACK

**F**lashback breaks the present action of the story to reveal an event from an earlier time. It provides background information to help readers understand the story, and flashback often contributes to the mood, characters, theme, or setting of the story.

Read the excerpt from Deborah Grate Frink's *Blinded by Colors*. In the passage, Lynn finds out that unsightly objects are often meaningful belongings.

About a month ago, Mama found the doll, abandoned near the dumpster, and carried the worn-out piece of plastic into the house.

"Whose is that?" Lynn asked as Mama thrust it towards her.

"It's your'n," replied Mama. "I found it and thought you'd like it."

"I do," Lynn said earnestly, "but - she's white."

"What does color gotta do wit' it?" Mama asked. "You ain't gotta just have dolls your own color."

Lynn stared at the battered image. The clothes were raggedy with age, and its child-sized body was disfigured, nearly broken into pieces. It winked its full-scale, black eyes every time Lynn tilted the head back. There was a patch of hair on top of its head with the sides cut low to reveal the tiny hair holes.

Examining the doll carefully, Lynn finally said, "I'm a name her Kat."

"Kat," Mama repeated. "Why Kat?"

"She looks just like one of those stray cats walking around," Lynn explained. "You don't like that name?"

"Yea, I do," Mama replied. "It sounds good to me."

After fixing up the doll, Lynn pretended to drink tea with her from the new tea set almost every day. New to Lynn meant the old things given to them from the wealthy family down the road. Since it wasn't hers from the beginning, Lynn considered it to be new.

As Lynn sat in the yard with both hands on the tea cups, she offered Kat a drink of tea, which was nothing more than mere water. "Here, Kat," she said fittingly, "Would you like a taste?"

Gradually, she placed one cup to Kat's mouth, and then the other one to hers. She lowered the cup and smacked her lips together. Kat's lifeless body sat silently, slumped down, staring into space the way stuffed animals do. Suddenly there was a loud BAM from the old broken down screen door slamming, and a large structure stepped on the porch. Lynn looked over her shoulder and saw Mama stretching her arms over her hefty body. Her premature legs held up her round mid-section, and strands of gray peeked through her half-dyed, black hair. Father Time was good to her, but the hands on her clock were slowly ticking. The hump on her back revealed her heavy load as the dust clouds flew around her feet in circles.

## FLASHBACK

A flashback interrupts the action in a piece of literature to describe an earlier event. Review the excerpt from *Blinded by Colors* and identify the flashback in it. Use the information to answer the following questions.

What specific events or emotions does the flashback describe?

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Which literary element (plot, theme, character, setting) is developed through the use of this flashback? Explain.

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How does the flashback help you understand what is happening in the story?

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# FLASHBACK

A flashback interrupts the action in a piece of literature to describe an earlier event. Review the story, *Blinded by Colors* and find a flashback. Write down the passage, the page number, and use the information to answer the following questions.

Passage:

Page # \_\_\_\_\_

What specific events or emotions does the flashback describe?

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Which literary element (plot, theme, character, and setting) is developed through the use of this flashback? Explain.

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How does the flashback help you understand what is happening in the story?

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