

THEME-nvestigator Field Report

Direction: You will act as a **THEME-nvestigator**, a literary detective assigned to uncover the deepest truth hidden within *The Flowers of May* by Francisco Arcellana. Your mission is not just to summarize the story, but to investigate how meaning is formed through characters, conflict, symbolism, and events.

As a THEME-nvestigator, you must carefully collect “clues” from the text and use them to build a strong, evidence-based interpretation of the story’s central message.

PHASE I: THE THEME CLUE FILE

Identify three important moments from the story that you believe reveal a deeper message about life or human experience.

Clue 1

Event from the story:

What insight about life does this moment suggest?

 Clue 2

Event from the story:

What insight about life does this moment suggest?

 Clue 3

Event from the story:

What insight about life does this moment suggest?

PHASE II: LITERARY EVIDENCE ANALYSIS

Explain how the following literary elements help reveal the story's deeper meaning.

Characterization

How do the characters' actions, emotions, or relationships reveal a theme?

Conflict

How does the central conflict contribute to the story's message?

Symbolism

What important symbol(s) in the story help express its deeper meaning? Explain.

Plot

Which event most strongly reveals the story's central message? Why?

PHASE III: THE FINAL THEME REPORT

Write a clear thematic statement based on your analysis.

Reminder: A thematic statement is a complete sentence about life, not a summary of the story.

Example:

"Memory shapes how individuals understand their identity and emotional connection to the past."

Your thematic statement:

PHASE IV: CASE DEFENSE (ARGUMENT PARAGRAPH)

Write a well-developed paragraph (6 - 8 sentences) defending your thematic statement. Use evidence from the story to support your interpretation.

