

## Harrison Bergeron (page 20)

# Literary Analysis SkillBuilder

### Theme

The **theme** of a story is its central message. The theme expresses an attitude or insight into life or human nature. Readers must infer the theme from clues in the story. One way to uncover the theme is to consider what happens to the main characters. For example, Harrison's death and the subsequent responses of his parents suggest that Vonnegut is criticizing both society and the parents. Uncover the theme of this story by looking back through it to find phrases, sentences, and events that provide clues to the theme. List each clue in one of the spaces of the diagram shown below. Use the clues to infer the theme of the story. Then write a sentence stating that theme.

<b>Clue</b>	+	<b>Clue</b>	+	<b>Clue</b>
<b>Clue</b>	+	<b>Clue</b>	+	<b>Clue</b>
<b>Theme:</b>				