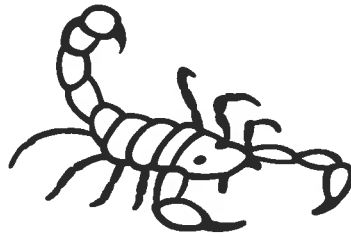


# The House of The Scorpion

By Nancy Farmer



**Old Age:**

**12 - 14**

## Study Guide

- Please answer all questions in complete sentences.
- Please use evidence from the story to support your answer.
- Answers without evidence, will not receive full credit.

**Ch.15 – A Starved Bird**

1. Explain if the simile on page 146 is an effective comparison. Why or why not?

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2. Use evidence to explain what you predict will happen based on the items left by Tam Lin for Matt in the chest.

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3. Explain the meaning of the priest’s statement, “This unbaptized limb of Satan has no right to make a mockery of this rite!” (153).

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Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author’s meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.16 – Brother Wolf**

1. Explain Maria’s reason for forgiving Matt based on her statement, “After all, wolves don’t know they aren’t supposed to eat peasants” (158).

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2. Explain how the epiphany Maria has in this chapter relates to the theme.

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Notes

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<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.17 – The Eejit Pens**

1. Explain why Matt enjoys his secret oasis and how it relates to the theme.

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2. Explain the meaning in the following statement: “It didn’t make sense for him to spend the rest of his life as an exotic pet” (170).

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3. Explain the irony in Ralf's statement, "That's what social conscience gets you..." (177).

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Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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## Ch.18 – The Dragon Hoard

1. In relation to El Patron, explain Tam Lin’s statement, “What other pleasure can a creature have whose life consists of making everyone else miserable?” (185).

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2. Compare the author’s use of the word **blunted** (185) to its use in chapter 1, page 4.

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### Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author’s meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.19 – Coming-of-Age**

1. Use evidence to explain the tone of this chapter and how it relates to the theme.

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2. Use evidence to explain how the author creates suspense in this chapter based on structure (the order and manner in which the narrative is presented).

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3. How does the information Matt realizes develop the plot?

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## Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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### Ch.20 – Esperanza

1. Explain how the meaning of the following statement relates to the theme, "After all, what is suffering but an awareness of suffering?" (197).

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2. Use evidence to characterize Matt based on this chapter alone.

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Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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## **Ch.21 – Blood Wedding**

1. According to the first paragraph on pg. 204, what is the author trying to tell the reader?

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2. Use evidence to explain how Maria has developed through the story.

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3. Determine the meaning of the following word, "*forlorn*" (210); explain the context clues that help you to do so.

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### Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.22 – Betrayal**

1. Explain the irony of the plan Maria had to help Matt escape.

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2. Use evidence to identify one word (document page #) from this chapter that represents the tone.

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3. Analyze the sentence structure of this chapter, and explain how the author creates suspense.

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Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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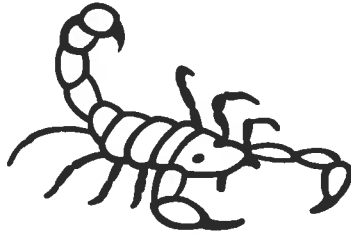
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# The House of The Scorpion

By Nancy Farmer



Age: 14

## Study Guide

- Please answer all questions in complete sentences.
- Please use evidence from the story to support your answer.
- Answers without evidence, will not receive full credit.

**Ch.23 – Death**

1. Explain Matt’s epiphany. [An epiphany is when you have a sudden revelation or realization.

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2. Use evidence to explain how Matt felt when he first saw El Patron in the hospital.

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Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author’s meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.24 – A Final Good-Bye**

1. Explain the irony of the following statement: “But this time, instead of fear, he felt a surge of pure animal rage” (241).

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2. Explain the meaning of Tam Lin’s statement:  
“No, I’m talking about *moral* consequences” (244).

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Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author’s meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>



What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.25 – The Farm Patrol**

1. Based on the following sentence, explain how Tam Lin was *trapped*: “He wept for Celia trapped in the stables and for Tam Lin, who was trapped in a different way” (252).

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2. Explain the irony in the following statement:  
“As long as he survived, El Patron had not vanished from the world” (252).

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Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

# **The House of The Scorpion**

**By Nancy Farmer**

## **La Vida Nueva**

### **Study Guide**

- Please answer all questions in complete sentences.
- Please use evidence from the story to support your answer.
- Answers without evidence will not receive full credit.

## **Ch.26 – The Lost Boys**

1. Compare and contrast the orphanage and the house of the scorpion family.

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### Notes

Is there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<b><u>Difficult</u></b>	<b><u>Pg.#</u></b>	<b><u>Meaning based on context</u></b>		<b><u>Vivid</u></b>	<b><u>Pg. #</u></b>	<b><u>Image author is creating</u></b>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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## Ch.27 – A Five-Legged Horse

1. Explain what the author is trying to tell the reader in the following statement: “The rest of the day, from Matt’s point of view, went very well” (269).

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2. Explain the irony in the following statement as it pertains to Matt: “What harm could words do?”(275).

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### Notes

Is there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author’s meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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Evidence that supports my essay’s theme.

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**Ch.28 – The Plankton Factory**

1. Use evidence to explain the irony in the way the boys characterize Matt.

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2. Use evidence to explain the contradiction in Carlos’s actions versus his words.

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Notes

Is there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author’s meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.29 – Washing a Dusty Mind**

1. Explain the meaning of the following statement, “Diseased opinions not suited to the good of the people have to be cleaned out with self-criticism” (291).

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2. Explain how the boys *welcome* Matt into the hive.

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Notes

Is there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.30 – When the Whales Lost Their Legs**

1. What context clues help you understand the meaning of **chasm** (296)?

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2. Use evidence to explain what Matt realizes that contradicts the Keepers socialist theory.

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3. Use evidence to compare and contrast zombies/eejits to the boys.

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Notes

Is there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.31 – Ton-Ton**

1. Explain the comparison between “the mark of the people” (310) and Matt’s tattoo.

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2. Compare and contrast the relationship between Jorge and Ton-Ton and El Patron and Matt.

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Notes

Is there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author’s meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.32 – Found Out**

1. Explain the meaning of the word **implied** in the following statement.  
“And in that statement, Matt realized, was an implied threat” (320).

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2. Explain how the following statement is related to the final events on pgs. 321-323,  
“If enough workers follow his example, the hive will die” (318).

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Notes

Is there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.33 – The Boneyard**

1. Identify and copy one sentence that states the theme of this chapter. Explain why it does.

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Notes

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<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.34 – The Shrimp Harvester**

1. Use evidence to explain the tone of this chapter.

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Notes

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<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.35 – El Dia De Los Muertos**

1. Explain the symbolism of the boys returning on the Day of the Dead.

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Notes

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<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.36 – The Castle on The Hill**

1. Use evidence to explain how Matt changes throughout this chapter.

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Notes

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<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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**Ch.37 – Homecoming**

1. Explain the irony in how El Patron's death has made Matt a person.

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2. Explain what the author wants the reader to know from the following statement:  
 “If Matt had become El Patron, then he’d gotten the whole package: wealth, power...and the evil that created it” (368).

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Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author’s meaning. Document pg. #.

<u>Difficult</u>	<u>Pg.#</u>	<u>Meaning based on context</u>		<u>Vivid</u>	<u>Pg. #</u>	<u>Image author is creating</u>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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## **Ch.38 – The House of Eternity**

1. Explain the meaning of the chapter's title in relation to its events.

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2. Identify the sentence that foreshadows the death of El Patron's family.

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### Notes

Are there any **difficult** or **vivid** vocabulary? Identify meaning based on context clues or explain how it helps visualize the author's meaning. Document pg. #.

<b><u>Difficult</u></b>	<b><u>Pg.#</u></b>	<b><u>Meaning based on context</u></b>		<b><u>Vivid</u></b>	<b><u>Pg. #</u></b>	<b><u>Image author is creating</u></b>

What is the theme of this chapter? What evidence supports this?

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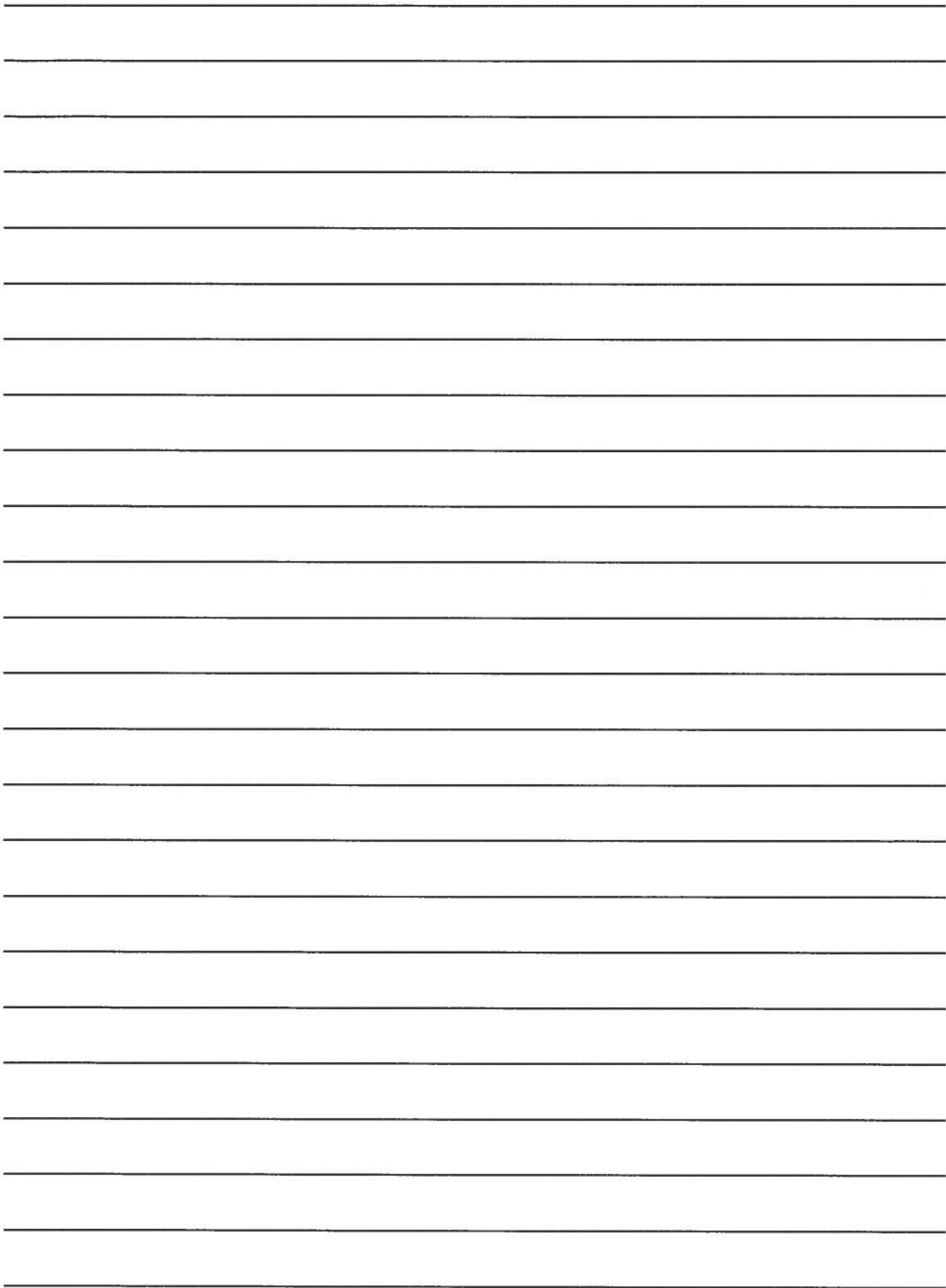
Name \_\_\_\_\_

[http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445\\_162-6300824/the-immortal-henrietta-lacks/](http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-3445_162-6300824/the-immortal-henrietta-lacks/)

### Henrietta Lacks and House of The Scorpion - Comparison Contrast Paragraph

**Directions:** After viewing the mini documentary about Henrietta Lacks accessible at the URL above, write a comparison-contrast paragraph that explores the theme of individual rights in both the story of Henrietta Lacks and *The House of the Scorpion*. What can you use people for? Matteo was bred and his organs harvested to provide life for El Patron. Henrietta Lack's cervical cancer cells were harvested for advances for medical science. What, if any, is the difference? Is one more ethical (right) than the other?

\*\*\*\*\*Use the space below to organize your information from the video.



Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Read the following poem and answer the questions in complete sentences.

**Clones**

by Edward Racey

Similar but not the same  
experience defines distinction.  
Man must not seek to duplicate  
just one step closer to extinction.

Why bite the hand that feeds you?  
Why smack the hands of creation?  
Has time taught us nothing of life?  
We **MUST** fight the duplication.

It is hard enough today  
to find a definite identity.  
It would be impossible to find the truth  
if there were two or more of me.

You have constructed the ladder  
but now you have climbed too high.  
The strands of DNA beneath you shatter  
and now the pieces fall from the sky.

Clones - Is this really me?

1. Use evidence to explain the tone of the poem.

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2. Use evidence to explain the speaker's audience.

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3. Use evidence to explain how the sound devices (alliteration, end rhyme) affect the tone and meaning of the poem.

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4. Identify and copy the strongest image in the poem (for you). Explain why it sticks with you and what you think it contributes to the overall meaning of the poem.

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5. Use evidence to explain the meaning of stanza 4.

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6. What is the theme (message) of the poem?

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