

THEMES IN *STANDING GROUND*

Theme explanation and definition:

Theme is a very broad idea portrayed or implied in a story. It can be a message of a story or a moral of a story. There can be a main theme in a novel, and there can also be many other “minor” themes that are presented in stories. The theme, or “message”, can be about many things such as life, humanity, or society.

Themes are universal ideas presented in stories, and are one of the fundamental concepts of literature. Some examples of themes are:

- Fate vs. Free Will
- Good vs. Evil
- Illusion of Power
- Love conquers all

There are limitless themes that can be gathered from literature, but most novels usually have specific implied themes within their pages.

Directions: *Standing Ground* has major themes and minor themes implied throughout the book.. On the following graphic organizer, have students list themes that they perceive within the book along with text evidence. Then, in the middle oval of the graphic organizer, have students choose the most important theme that they perceive the book implies. There may be more than one answer. Teachers can use questioning strategies to elicit answers and have students share.

