**“Song of the Trees”**

Power Point Presentation Questions

Create a Power Point presentation based upon the following questions. Each letter under each number should be answered on its own slide. Each slide should contain the answer, textual evidence and an image to support your position.

**Question #1: Setting**

The story is set in segregated Mississippi during the 1930s, which was the time of the Great Depression.

A. Explain how the time period and the place cause conflicts for the Logan family.

B. Which element of the setting: the **time period** (Great Depression) or **the place** (segregated

Mississippi) has the most serious effect on the Logan family? Give at least 1 reason for your

answer and provide at least 1 detail or example from the story.

**Question #2: Characters**

A. Which character in the story is your favorite? Explain your choice with 2 reasons or details from

the story.

B. Mildred D. Taylor based some of her characters on people in her family. Are the characters in

this story realistic? In other words, do they act, speak, and think like real people would? Explain

your answer with at least 2 details from the text.

**Question #3: Theme**

The theme of a story is the life lesson you can apply to your own life after reading the text. This life lesson is usually very broad and can apply to everyone all around the world. One of the themes of “Song of the Trees’ is: Standing up against those who put you down will help you keep your self-respect.

A. Identify 2 events from the story that support this theme.

**Question #4: Historical Accuracy**

When authors write a story that is historical fiction, they do research to learn the history of that time period. Then, when they write their stories, they use some historical truths and mix in some of their own fictional ideas. Sometimes, historical fiction accurately describes life from that time period and sometimes the authors alter the facts by using their imaginations.

A. Explain whether “Song of the Trees” is **overall** an accurate description of life for African-American living in the south during the Great Depression. Use at least 2 details from the story to support your answer.

B. Describe 1 part of the story you feel is fictional and DOES NOT accurately describe life for African-Americans living in the South during the Great Depression. Give 1 reason for your answer. If you feel that there are not any inaccuracies, explain why you think that.

**Question #5: Evaluate**

A. Do you think David (Papa) really would have blown up the forest? Why or why not? Use at least

1 detail from the story to support your answer.

B. On page 35, it states that Mr. Andersen, “hissed venomously”. This statement compares Mr.

Andersen to what animal? Do you think this is a good comparison? Why/why not?

**Question #6: Symbolism**

In literature, a symbol is something visible that represents or stands for something invisible. An example is the American flag. The flag is something visible to many people. It is a piece of material. However, it is not just a flag. When we look at it, we understand that is symbolizes a larger invisible idea like freedom. A heart symbol isn’t just a picture; it represents the emotions of love and affection. In the Harry Potter series, the scar on Harry’s forehead symbolizes his struggle to defeat Lord Voldemort.

In “Song of the Trees”, the trees are a symbol. In other words, although they are visible objects, they also represent larger, invisible ideas found in the story.

A. Explain what you think the trees symbolize in the story. How do you know this? What larger, invisible ideas do you think the trees represent in the story and why do you think that?