Theme

* Main idea or message of the story
* Most significant part of any story
  + Answers the question, “So What?”
* All aspects of the story support the theme
  + Setting – characterization – literary devices
* Sometimes more than one theme

Theme Development

1. Identify the topic 🡪 what is the story about
2. Theme is what the author is saying about this topic

How to State the Theme

* Stated in a complete sentence
* Not a cliché
* Not too general that it can apply to many stories 🡪 needs to be specific to this story
* You have to be able to support with details from all over the story

Read “Boys and Girls” - 44

Notes on – the main character (character traits) – antagonist – the setting (physical, temporal, cultural) – why does she “become a girl”?