

Student Worksheet 1-Questions about Joe Magarac Tall Tale

Group 1: A larger-than-life, superhuman main character with a specific job ...

1. Who was the larger-than-life, superhuman character?
2. What descriptive words tell you how he was literally larger-than-life (bigger than normal)?
3. How was he superhuman? What could he do that normal human beings could not?
4. What was his profession?

Group 2: A problem that is solved in a funny way.

1. List the problems that were solved in a funny way in this story.
2. What was funny about the way they were solved?
3. How might a “regular man” have solved these problems?

Group 3: Exaggerated details that describe things as greater than they really are.

1. There are a number of hyperboles (exaggerated details) in this book. How many you can identify and list?
2. Create and write down three hyperboles about Joe Magarac.

Group 4: Geographic locations in this story.

1. What geographic locations does the story name?
2. Find these locations on map of the Pittsburgh region or Pennsylvania (use the front of the map or the Pittsburgh and Johnstown maps on the back)
3. Name the rivers near the locations you've identified
4. Why might it be important for steel mills to be located near rivers?