

The Monkey's Paw

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

- 1.) What is a fakir?
- 2.) What was the fakir's purpose in placing a spell on the paw?
- 3.) Find two clues during the first evening that hint that the paw is not necessarily a desirable object to possess.
- 4.) What are Mr. White's three wishes? Briefly describe the way in which each wish seems to be granted.
- 5.) Based on what happens in the story, do you think that the fakir's attitude on fate is correct?
- 6.) What happens to Herbert White?
- 7.) What other stories or movies are based on three wishes or similar plots? Explain how they are similar to The Monkey's Paw.
- 8.) Define fate.
- 9.) What is the method for making a wish using the monkey's paw?
- 10.) Could Mr. White have worded his first two wishes more carefully so as to prevent any possible misfortune? Why or why not?
- 11.) What do you think happened at the end of the story? Why does Mr. White beg his wife not to let "it" into the house? What does he mean? What is he afraid of? Who or what was outside of the house?
- 12.) How does Jacobs build suspense?

13.) What makes Jacob's style of writing unique? Read the following passage and think about how he puts his words together to create a mood. Underline words or passages that seem to set the mood.

"...and a horrible fear that his wish would bring his mangled son before him ere he could escape from the room seized upon him, and he caught his breath as he found he had lost the direction of the door. His brow cold with sweat, he felt his way around the table, and groped along the wall until he found himself in the small passage with the unwholesome thing in his hand."

14.) Note any of the characters' actions you feel are significant on the chart below. What conclusions can you draw about each of the characters from analyzing their actions?

Character	Action	Conclusion
Mr. White	Yells about the foul weather and the poor condition of the road they live on.	He's frustrated because he has lost at chess and he is venting his emotions.
Mr. White		
Mrs. White		
Herbert White		
Herbert White		
Major Morris		
Major Morris		