

Graphic Organizer for Active Reading

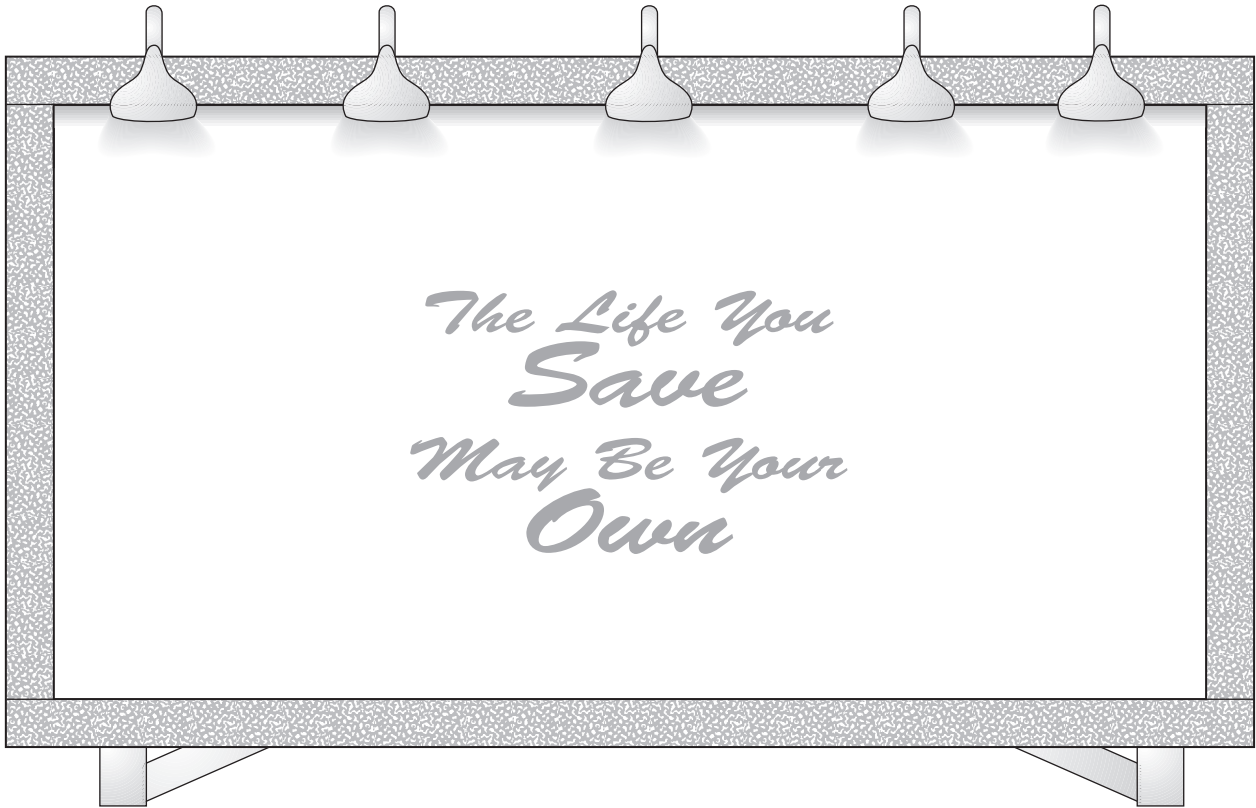
The Life You Save May Be Your Own

Flannery O'Connor

Pupil's Edition page 673

A Sign of the Times

You may recognize the title of O'Connor's story as a slogan seen on billboards or heard in public-service announcements. Before you read the story, note on the following billboard some thoughts that come to mind when you see or hear this phrase.



1. After you have read the story, describe how you think the slogan applies to the character of Shiftlet.

2. Do any of your thoughts on the billboard above echo the meaning of the phrase in the story? Explain your answer.

3. Do you sympathize with the meaning of the slogan in the story, or do you find it repellent? Explain.

Words to Own

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Sentence Completion

Review the definitions of your Words to Own, then complete the sentences by using details that show you understand the meaning of the **boldface** words. Each boldface word is a Word to Own.

EXAMPLE: She decorated her letter **elaborately**, drawing curlicues around all the capital letters.

1. The roof of the shed **listed**, showing _____

2. Because the weather was **sultry**, they wore _____

3. She had a **gaunt** figure, because hard work on the farm had made her _____

4. Sometimes she **rued** her life and wished _____

5. The stranger seemed **morose**, as if he _____

6. She fired a **volley** of questions, pinning him down with _____

7. He was **irked** by the questions because _____

8. His **guffawing** responses offended her because _____

9. She saw him **amble** over to the old car, walking as if _____

10. She was **ravenous** for someone to marry her daughter and looked at prospective suitors _____

Identify the type of error, if any, in each underlined passage, and circle the letter next to the correct answer.

The characters in “The Life You Save May Be Your Own” act out a classic theme of innocence beset by evil. From the beginning; however, we¹ are confronted with hints that this is not a noble, heroic epic. In this exquisite peice of storytelling,² ideals are turned upside down. There are three vivid characters drawn from the rural south. Even³ with their peculiarities, Flannery O’Connors char-⁴ acters are disturbingly familiar.

- 1 A Spelling
B Capitalization
C Punctuation
D No error

- 3 A Spelling
B Capitalization
C Punctuation
D No error

- 2 F Spelling
G Capitalization
H Punctuation
J No error

- 4 F Spelling
G Capitalization
H Punctuation
J No error

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**One-Stop Planner CD-ROM and
print ancillaries
include Answer Key here.**

Answers are not available Online.