Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Story title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Note sheet for responding to a short story**

**The 7 key elements of texts**

(come up with a Mnemonic device or use this one: **T**he **N**ext **S**tep **C**ould **R**eally **C**hange **E**verything):

**(Before reading) -> Title**: Deconstruct the title - what do you think it might mean?

**-> Narrator**: Which narrator is being used? Why did the author choose this narrator? Is the narrator reliable/credible - why or why not? What are the advantages and limitations of this narrator?

**-> Setting**: What is the setting? Why did the author choose this setting? How might this setting be symbolic or meaningful?

**-> Character**: How are the main character(s) characterized? List 3 personality traits and how you know they are like this. What do their names mean? If they have no names, what might that mean?

**-> Relationships**: What are the relationships like between characters? Is there a power imbalance and why? How do the characters’ relationships change over the course of the story and why?

**-> Conflict**: What is the main conflict the protagonist is facing? Is it resolved or not - how and why?

**-> Evolution**: How does the protagonist evolve over the course of the story? What are 2 plot points that help/hurt this change?

**Theme, Meaning, Stance**

**(After reading) ->Title:** Deconstruct the title - what do you *now* think it means?

**-> Theme**: What do you think is the theme (Big Idea)? This is usually only one word (i.e. love, friendship, power, etc.)

**-> Meaning**: What do you think is the meaning? This is what the author/text is saying about the theme (i.e. love is the most important thing (theme: love), all people seek popularity and power (theme: power), true happiness comes from self-acceptance (theme: self-acceptance), etc.)

**-> Key concepts.** What are two key concepts from the text that support this meaning?

1. Element/Technique that supports this concept: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

2.  Element/Technique that supports this concept: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion:**

First restate meaning and points previously made.

State your STANCE- What is your overall evaluation of this text, its message, its literary merit- based on its craft?