

<i>Out of the Dust</i> by Karen Hesse	Assume	Infer	Analyze	Prioritize	Judge
Character Development	What can you assume about Pa's behavior after Ma dies?	How can we infer that Billie Jo wants to get "out of the dust"?	Analyze the relationship between Pa and Billie Jo?	Prioritize the importance of these characters in the story – Pa, Louise, Miss Freeland and Mad Dog. Support the order you choose.	Judge whether or not Billie Jo made a good decision to return home. What would your decision have been and why?
Themes	What theme can we assume might be prevalent in this book?	Considering the theme of change, what can we infer about Pa's attitude towards life after he meets Louise?	Analyze the theme of forgiveness, as it relates to this book.	In keeping with the theme of change, prioritize the changes that most influence Billie Jo as a character.	The piano is an important image that is repeated in the story. Judge which theme this image is most connected to.
Problems or Conflicts	Assume that Billie Jo has a crush on Mad Dog Craddock. What problem do you assume this creates in the story?	What can we infer about the conflict that exists between Mad Dog and Billie Jo?	Analyze the personal conflict that exists within Billie Jo when she decides to run away from home.	There are various conflicts that exist in this story. Name and briefly describe as many as you can and prioritize their importance in the story.	Billie Jo loved her Ma but had conflicting feelings about her at times. Judge whether this conflict was typical of mother-daughter conflicts that can exist.
Setting	If you assume that the time period of the story changes to the present time, but the place remains the same, how will the story change?	After you learn about the setting (time and place) of this story, what can you infer about the quality of life of the characters?	Analyze the impact the setting has on Billie Jo's life.	The setting of <u>Out of the Dust</u> is critical to the plot and characters of this story. Prioritize the components of the setting as they appeal to you as a reader.	The setting created a unique set of problems for the people in this story. Judge which of these problems can be most likened to a problem experienced today

					in our country.
Point of View	If you were one of the ladies who lived in Joyce City, what might you assume about the accident?	What can we infer about the changes in the story if it were told from Pa's point of view?	Analyze Billie Jo's point of view about who caused the accident.	Speaking from Louise's point of view, prioritize a list of questions or topics she might feel important to discuss with Billie Jo before marrying Billie Jo's father.	Karen Hesse decided to write the story from Billie Jo's point of view. Judge whether or not this produces a biased point of view for the reader. Judge whether a third person narrative been a better choice?