

Theme Notes

Defn - controlling idea or central insight
into a story.

Not all stories have theme

Friday the 13th I - IX
Dumb & Dumber

Theme exists in 2 cases:

- ① when life has been recorded accurately
- ② when the story illustrates clearly a truth of life.

Cuckoo's Nest theme:

1984 theme: →

- 'Go Along' - Some people may feel the urge to try something new, but many find that it is difficult or impossible to break free of their old ways.

6 Elements of Theme:

- 1. Must be expressed in a complete sentence.
- 2. Must be a generalization about life.
- 3. Must still fit with story: don't go too big
- 4. Theme must cover all major details of story.
- 5. There are many ways of stating theme
- 6. Use NO clichés: "Don't judge a book by its cover."

