

Name: Period: Theme Tracker

Genius and Innovation

A major theme in **Ender’s Game** is Ender’s incredible ability to think outside the box, to see things from a new perspective, and to try things no one else has ever thought to try before. What can we learn from this story about genius and innovation? What can we learn about creative and critical thinking?

Find and analyze passages from the book that talk about or show examples of genius and innovation.

Passage #1 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about genius and innovation?

Passage #2 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about genius and innovation?

innovation?

FINAL THEME STATEMENT: In a single sentence, what overall message does the book give us about genius and innovation?



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Effective and Ineffective Leadership

Throughout **Ender’s Game**, we see examples of leaders and leadership—some great, like Ender and Alai, and some terrible, like Bonzo and Rose the Nose. Based on the examples we see in the book, what can we learn about effective leadership? What makes a good leader? What can destroy effective leadership?

Find and analyze passages from the book that talk about or show examples of effective and ineffective leadership.

Passage #1 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about leadership?

Passage #2 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about leadership?

FINAL THEME STATEMENT: In a single sentence, what overall message does the book give us about leadership?



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Adult Manipulation of Young People

A major theme in **Ender’s Game** is that the adults are constantly manipulating the young people to serve their purposes. Why do adults (in the story and in real life) try to manipulate children? Is manipulating another person necessarily a bad thing? Is allowing yourself to be manipulated a good thing or a bad thing?

Find and analyze passages from the book that talk about or show examples of adults manipulating young people.

Passage #1 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about manipulation?

Passage #2 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about manipulation?

FINAL THEME STATEMENT: In a single sentence, what overall message does the book give us about manipulation?



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Isolation and Loneliness

Throughout **Ender’s Game**, Ender is isolated—kept apart from other young adults that could be friends. Why do the adults at Battle School do this to him? And what effects does this isolation have on Ender? What can we learn about the effects of isolation and loneliness?

Find and analyze passages from the book that talk about or show examples of Ender being isolated.

Passage #1 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about isolation and loneliness?

Passage #2 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about isolation and loneliness?

FINAL THEME STATEMENT: In a single sentence, what overall message does the book give us about isolation and loneliness?



Name: Period: Theme Tracker

Humanity and Inhumanity

A major theme in **Ender’s Game** is the relationship between humanity and inhumanity. “Humanity” means having compassion or sympathy for other people, especially people in pain or distress. So a “humane” person finds it hard to hurt another person or animal because he or she feels sympathy for others. “Inhumanity,” on the other hand, means a lack of these compassionate qualities. So an “inhumane” person is often brutal and merciless.

Ender Wiggin is an interesting character because he seems to show both of these qualities. As we read **Ender’s** **Game**, what can we learn about humanity and inhumanity? What really makes a person humane or inhumane?

Find and analyze passages from the book that talk about or show examples of humanity or inhumanity.

Passage #1 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about humanity and inhumanity?

Passage #2 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about humanity and inhumanity?

Passage #3 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

FINAL THEME STATEMENT: In a single sentence, what overall message does the book give us about humanity and inhumanity?



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The Justification of Violence during War

**Ender’s Game** raises an important moral and ethical question: In a state of war, are you justified to do *anything* necessary to win? Graff and the leaders of Battle School allow some terrible things to happen, including the death of a student. Ender does some terrible things, killing not only two other children but an entire race of intelligent beings. Can those acts of violence be justified because they were necessary to win the war against the buggers? Or were some of those acts still morally wrong?

Find and analyze passages from the book that talk about or show examples of the justification of violence.

Passage #1 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about justifying of violence?

Passage #2 (write it down exactly as it appears in the book) Page #

What message does this passage give us about justifying of violence?

FINAL THEME STATEMENT: In a single sentence, what overall message does the book give us about justifying of violence?