

A Fall From Royalty

Activity and Discussion Guide Grades 3-5



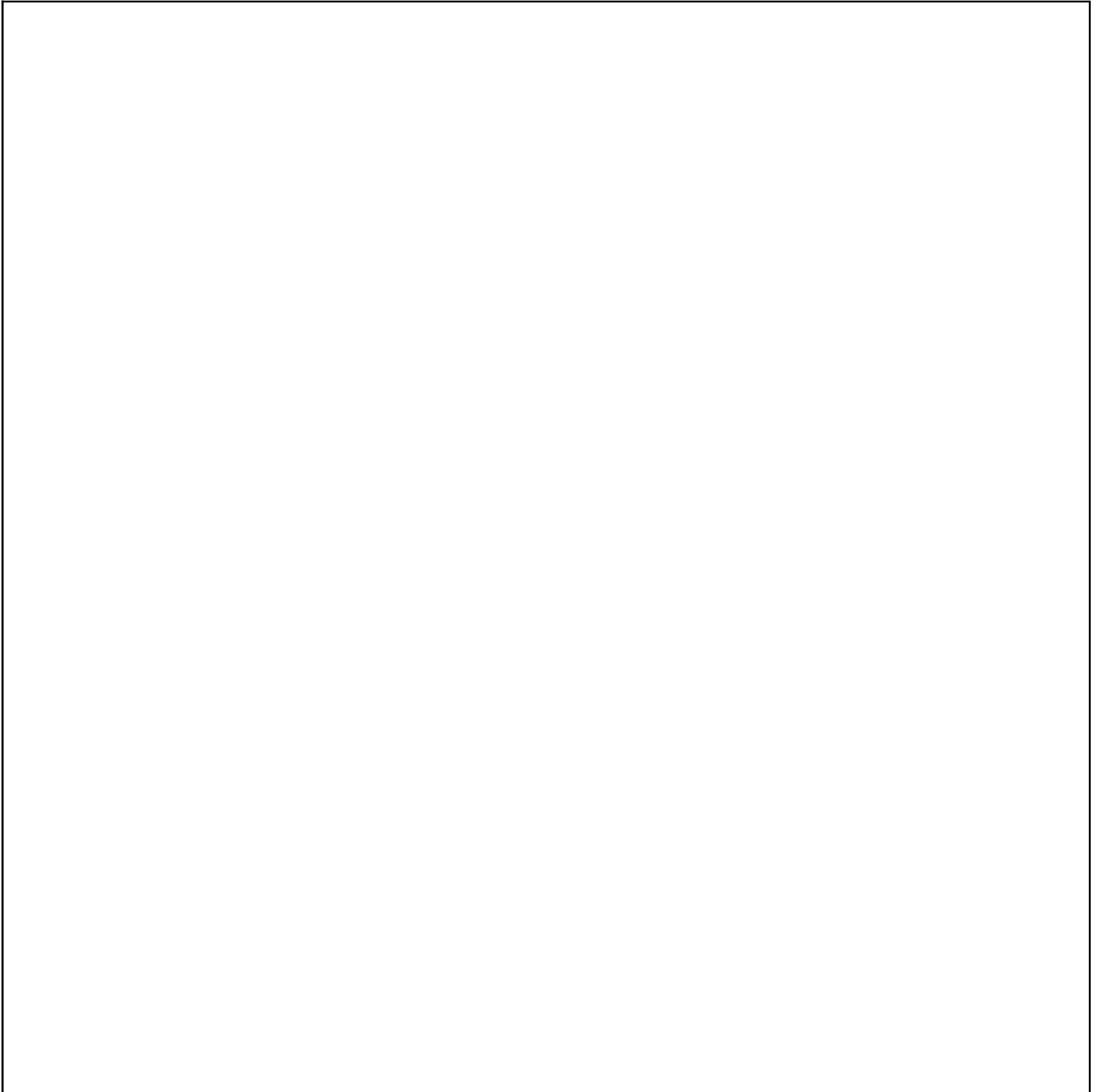
CCSS.ELA-Literacy. RL.3 - 5.2

Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.

There are several themes that are presented throughout “A Fall From Royalty” i.e. pride, greed, deception, family trauma, generational curses, etc.

(3rd grade) Determine the central message using details from the play. Summarize the play.

(4th and 5th grade) Use specific details from the play to support the theme of your choice, including character responses to challenges. Summarize the play.



CCSS.ELA-Literacy. RL.3 - 5.3

Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text (e.g., a character's thoughts, words, or actions).

Choose two characters from “A Fall From Royalty”, Complete the chart describing the character, their motivations, their actions and how it affects the story.

Character Name	Traits (Adjectives)	Motivations (What They Want)	Actions (What They Do)	Evidence

Character Action	Effect on the Story	Evidence

CCSS.ELA-Literacy. RL.4 - 5.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.

What does the underlined sentence in the following dialogue mean? Why does King Kewku say this?

King Necca: *Manage your tongue King. False accusations tend to lead to a lot of bloodshed.*

King Kweku: *Is that a threat?*

King Necca just smiles.

King Kweku: *You know a wise man fills his head before emptying his mouth.* *Besides, Kumba doesn't like threats.*

King Necca: *I don't pose threats. I deliver promises.*

King Necca: *But of course, and in five seconds, I shall deliver mine.*

In the 1800s, Joe reveals his truth about his father's death. He says,

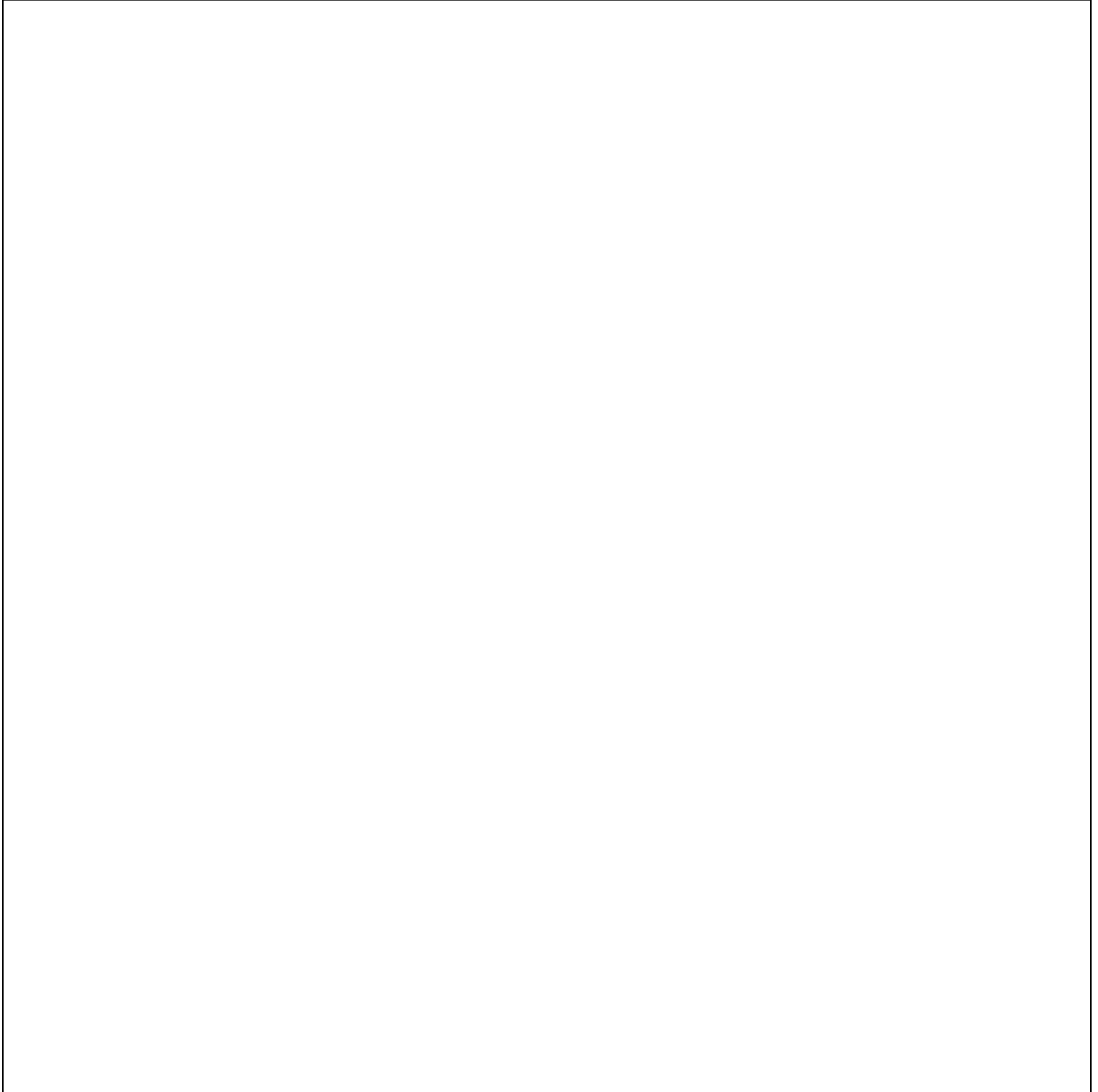
"Just know my back tells stories that no books have the spine to carry."

What does Joe mean by this? Why is this statement so powerful in that moment? Use details from the play to support your response.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy. RL.4 - 5.9

Compare and contrast stories in the same genre (e.g., mysteries and adventure stories) on their approaches to similar themes and topics.

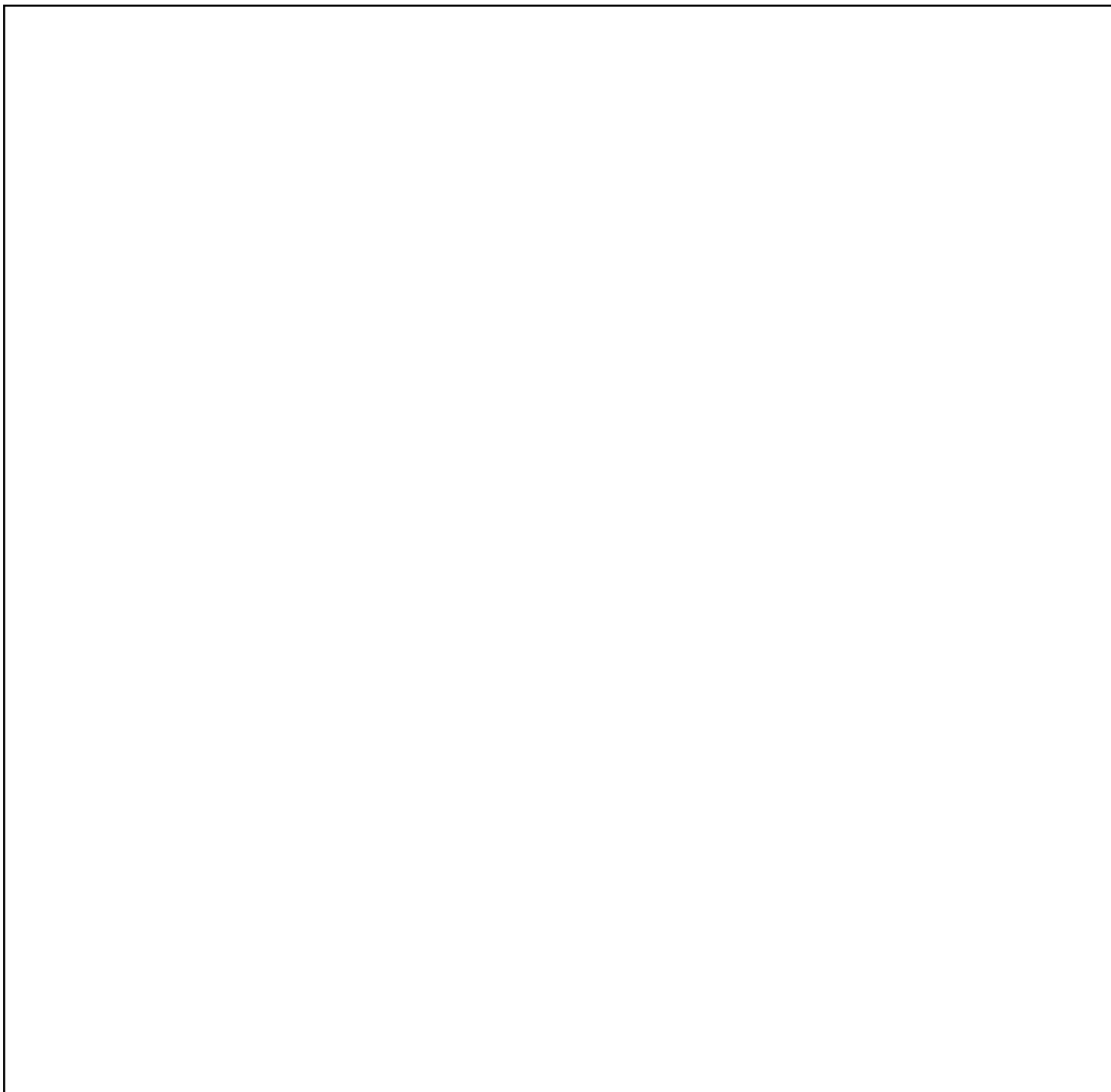
How would you compare the theme or central message of “A Fall From Rpyalty” to that of another stroy you have read that takes places during a similar era?



CCSS.ELA-Literacy. RL.4 - 5.7

Analyze how visual and multimedia elements contribute to the meaning, tone, or beauty of a text (e.g., graphic novel, multimedia presentation of fiction, folktale, myth, poem).

Think about the various elements you saw and heard throughout the show. How do elements such as lighting and sound, music, wardrobe, and set design help you to better understand the meaning of “A Fall From Royalty”? Perhaps you may want to focus on a specific part of the play or the play overall. Explain.



CCSS.ELA-Literacy. RL.3 - 5.6

Describe how a narrator's or speaker's point of view influences how events are described.

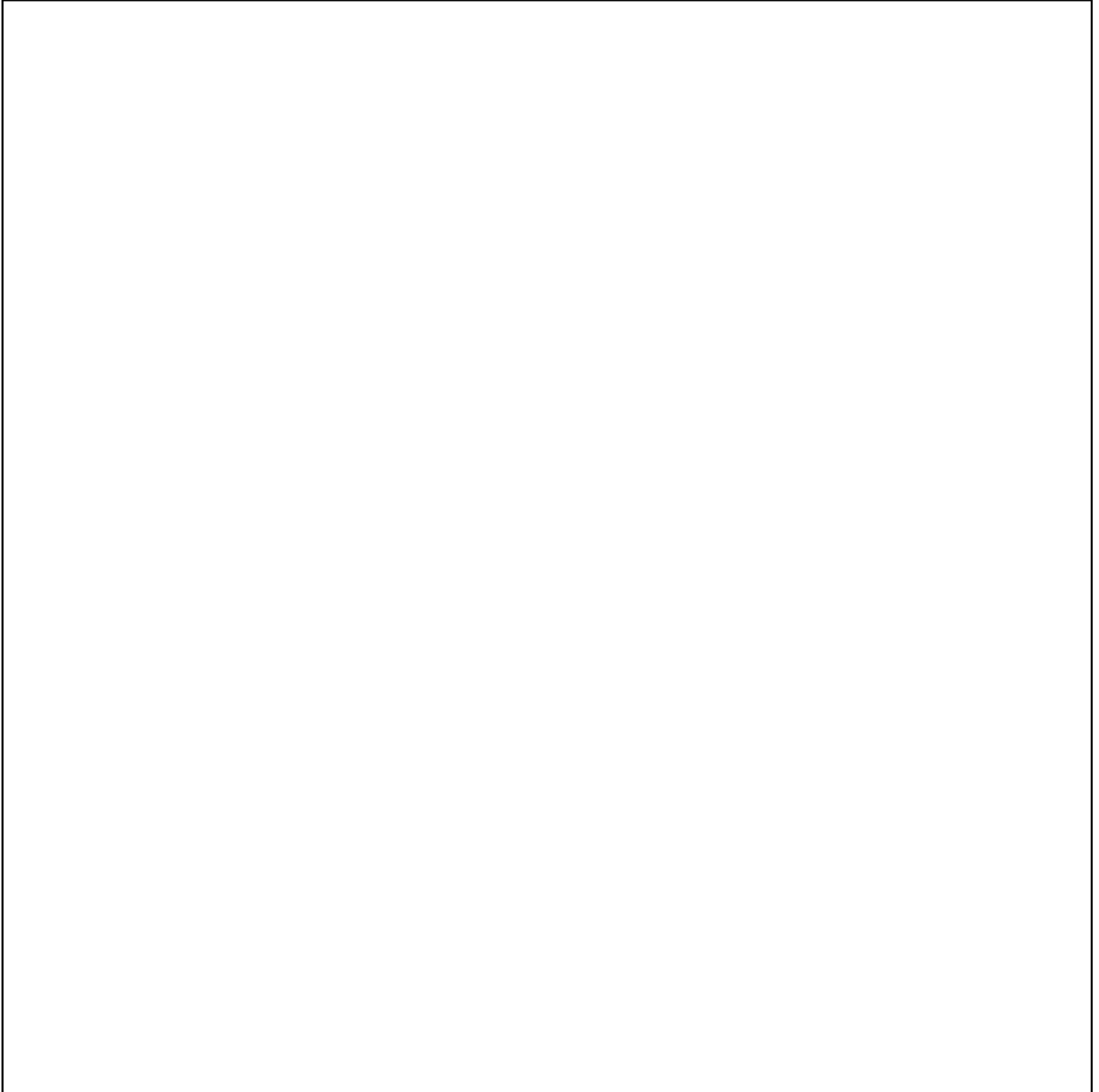
In the 1800s, we find out Brenda and Joe are at odds with one another. Describe their point of view as it relates to the death of their father. How do their point of views impact how they live and their family?

Brenda's POV	Joe's POV	Influence or impact of their POV on life and family	Evidence

CCSS.ELA-Literacy. W.3 - 5.1

Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Do you believe King Kweku would have signed the Transatlantic Slave Trade if he had known the impact it would have on his descendants? Explain why or why not using details from the play.

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the student to write their opinion piece. The box occupies most of the page below the question.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy. SL.3 - 5.1

Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on *grade 3-5 topics and texts*, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

Questions for Discussion

Who is Mansa Musa? How is he significant to the upbuilding of African kingdoms in “A Fall From Royalty”?

How did Europeans take over the Manikongo and its neighboring kingdoms? How did they take advantage of the African kingdoms?

What was the purpose of the Transatlantic Slave Trade?

How are King Kweku, King Ed, King Necca, and King Jafu similar? How are they different?

What motivated King Ed to meet with King Kweku?

What character traits describe King Kweku? Use evidence from the play to support your answer.

How did King Kweku’s decision to sign the Transatlantic Slave Trade impact the future, 400 years later? How were the slaves impacted mentally and physically as a result of his decision?

If you were to write the resolution to “A Fall From Royalty”, how would it end?

What questions do you have for specific characters or Mr. Gallion? What did you enjoy the most about the show? What would you change? (be creative)

What new knowledge did you gain after viewing “A Fall From Royalty”?

The decisions you make today will impact your tomorrow, good or bad. How is “A Fall From Royalty” relevant to today’s society? Explain.

What does the chair by the door in the 1800s represent? What trauma does it bring to the family? Provide details from the play to support your response.

Do you see a shift in the confidence of the characters in the 1800s versus those in the 1400s? If so, explain. **Hint - Ella Nora makes a comment regarding this.

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