

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

Two Column Note Taking Strategy

On the left column you put your headings, teacher examples, own examples, questions, page references, and “Stuff” you add later from self, teacher, friends, books. On the right column, you write your notes that relate to the headings. This will help you organize your information, improve your study habits, and increase your retention.

Questions/Key Ideas	NOTES
<p>What’s the title of the story? Who wrote the story? What time of day does the story begin? How is the time symbolic? What does the patrolman come across? Is there anything odd about the man in the shadows? What story does the man tell the police officer? What is the conflict in the story? How might the story the man tells foreshadow the end of the story? How is Jimmy Wells described? What do we know about Jimmy’s friend? Who is Bob? How are Jim and Bob doing now? What do we know about Jim? What happens in the light? Where is the climax in the story? What are the surprises in the end? Is there a resolution? What’s the point of the story? Who’s the Protagonist/Antagonist What’s the theme? How does setting impact the story</p>	<p>--“After Twenty Years” --O. Henry (William Sydney Porter) famous writer --10:00 at night, chilly, windy, and possibly rainy --the setting foreshadows something bad will happen --the patrolman finds a man standing in a “darkened” doorway --the man speaks very nervously to the patrolman about the appointment to meet there 20 years ago while standing in the “darkened doorway of a hardware store” --He tells the officer that he and Jimmy Wells were best childhood friends who agreed to meet here in 20 years to see how their destinies and fortunes worked out --Bob’s desire to meet his friend with a 20 year promise --The focus on destinies, fortunes, and shadows hints that something is not going to turn out all that well and there is mystery in the story --He is the “truest,” most loyal, friend who never forgets --He’s a hustler, flashy, confident, risk-taker, true to his word, a talker, shady --Bob is the man standing in darkness waiting for Jimmy --They both claim to be doing well now --He looked taller & works in the “city departments” --Bob realizes that the guy he is with is not Jimmy and he has been walking w/an officer under arrest arm and arm --When Bob reads Jimmy’s note --Bob’s a criminal, Jimmy’s a policeman, they did meet --There is no resolution to this story --Change is inevitable/everything comes out in the wash --Bob is the Protagonist and Jimmy is the Antagonist --Things don’t always turn out the way we expect them to --The setting hints that something bad is coming</p>

✪ (Use the bottom is for summarizing the page).