

Name: _____

Class: _____

Date: _____

SCORE/GRADE:

SPECIFIC THEME: *The Cricket in Times Square*

What is one specific theme of this story? (Remember, a *specific* theme is the author's contribution to a discussion of the *general* theme, or main idea.) Answer on the line below with a complete sentence or two:

This story illustrates the idea that friendship involves self-sacrifice. From Tucker and Harry's generosity toward Chester in the early chapters to Chester's own musical service to the Bellini family, readers encounter multiple examples of people desiring the good of others and giving of themselves to bring that good about.

Another (contrasting?) theme that emerges from this story is that the urge to personal freedom will not be denied. Chester's growing dissatisfaction with the confinement brought on by his musical career and his final decision to leave New York for his home in Connecticut emphasize the idea that freedom is the highest good.