

Key Question

What effects can gossip have on people?

Vocabulary

Academic vocabulary

- *assume (v.)*, conclusion (n.), consequence (n.), exactly (adv.), problem (n.)*

Discuss each academic vocabulary word with students. Point to the use of each word in the book, and then use each word in a different model sentence. Have students work in groups to create posters for these words. Include on each poster: the word and its part of speech, the definition, the word in an example sentence, and a picture (if possible) illustrating the meaning of the word. Hang these posters up in the classroom for students to see and refer to as they encounter the words within other texts, lessons, and assignments.

(*) word appears in the lesson but not the book

Story words

- *assumptions (n.), conclusion (n.), consequences (n.), gossiping (v.), humiliating (adj.), rumor (n.)*

Enrichment words

- *deployed (v.), expelled (v.), glimpse (v.), mutates (v.), respect (n.), sheepishly (adj.), slunk (v.), sulking (v.)*

Go to VocabularyA-Z.com for a pre-made vocabulary lesson for *The Gossip Monster*.



Ask and answer questions

Model a "Think Aloud" while reading the first few paragraphs of the story. Pose questions, ideas, or wonderings you have while reading and model writing them in the margin of the book. While reading, have students annotate the text by writing questions or wonderings. After reading, have students discuss their annotations with a partner to gain deeper understanding.

Graphic organizer: Cause and effect

Explain to students that sometimes one cause-and-effect relationship can lead to another; the effect of one relationship becomes the cause of a new one. Draw three boxes in a row on the board. In the middle box, write ~~the following sentence:~~ **The window broke.** Ask students what could be the cause of that effect, and write one ~~suggested~~ answer in the left box. Then, have students think of the middle sentence as a cause and write an effect ~~of that~~ in the right box. Draw arrows in between each box to ~~help students see the chain.~~ ~~Once students understand cause-and-effect chains, introduce~~ the lesson **graphic organizer** and have students record cause-and-effect chains within this story.

Story elements: Problem and solution

Review the chain of causes and effects that happened in this story. Ask students to explain the major conflict in this story that resulted because of these series of events. Then have students identify how the problem was solved.

Text-dependent questions

Next to each answer, have students write the page number(s) where they found information in the text to answer the questions.

- *What did Jamie assume happened? (level 2)*
- *How did Jamie feel when she first heard others spreading her rumor? (level 2)*
- *How did Mr. Sanchez want his students to treat another? Why? (level 2)*
- *How did Del feel about being gossiped about? (level 2)*
- *How is starting a rumor like feeding a monster? (level 3)*

Response to reading

Have students cite specific evidence from the book to answer the key question.

Name _____

Instructions: Write the causes and effects in the correct sequence in the boxes below in order to show how one event effects another.

The diagram consists of six boxes arranged in a zig-zag pattern, connected by curved lines. The boxes are labeled 'Cause:' and 'Effect:'. The sequence is as follows:

- Top Left Box:** Labeled 'Cause:'. It has three horizontal lines for writing.
- Middle Left Box:** Labeled 'Effect:'. It has three horizontal lines for writing.
- Middle Right Box:** Labeled 'Cause:'. It has three horizontal lines for writing.
- Bottom Right Box:** Labeled 'Effect:'. It has three horizontal lines for writing.
- Bottom Left Box:** Labeled 'Cause:'. It has three horizontal lines for writing.
- Top Right Box:** Labeled 'Effect:'. It has three horizontal lines for writing.

The connections between the boxes are as follows:

- A curved line connects the bottom of the **Top Left Box** to the top of the **Middle Left Box**.
- A curved line connects the bottom of the **Middle Left Box** to the top of the **Middle Right Box**.
- A curved line connects the bottom of the **Middle Right Box** to the top of the **Bottom Right Box**.
- A curved line connects the bottom of the **Bottom Right Box** to the top of the **Bottom Left Box**.
- A curved line connects the bottom of the **Bottom Left Box** to the top of the **Top Right Box**.