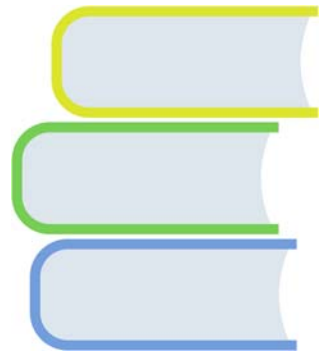


Name _____ **Cliffhanger**



Cliffhanger Techniques

The author R.L. Stine (Goosebumps series) recommends using the following techniques to create cliffhangers and generate suspense in a story. Read the techniques. Then read the assigned text. How many of these techniques can you find at work in the reading? As you identify a technique, identify where in the reading you found it, and briefly describe what happens.

Introduce chapters with a sense of urgency.

Write concisely.

Avoid lengthy descriptions; blend descriptions into action scenes.

Keep the focus on the protagonist's sensory experience of the story.

Keep information from the reader where possible. n

Start chapters in the middle of scenes.

Use flashbacks to create new sources of suspense.

End chapters in the middle of a scene, at the highest point of tension.