



### **ANSWERS WILL VARY**

A prologue is a short introductory section in a novel that sets the stage for what is to come in the story. Although a prologue is typically fairly short, it provides important background information that effects the reader's ability to fully understand the events of the story.

Not every novel has a prologue. A prologue can make the story less confusing. It can be a short, exciting scene that draws the reader into the story. When a prologue is used, it requires exposition later in the story so that the reader comes to understand the place and the significance of the events of the prologue to the story overall. There are some disadvantages to using a prologue, however. A prologue can slow down a story. It may be difficult to transition smoothly from the prologue to the main story, and it may overload the reader with too many story details too soon. A prologue works best in stories where the reader may not understand the significance of the events of the main story without one.