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Book I, *The Sword in the Stone*, introduces the character of Wart who later becomes King Arthur. Wart lives with his guardian Sir Ector and Sir Ector's son Kay at the Castle Sauvage, under the tutelage of an eccentric magician Merlin. Throughout his early years, Wart is turned into many different animals by Merlin, such as an ant, a fish, a badger, and a goose, and each adventure serves as a lesson about violence and authority that will inform his later years as King of England. After Kay is knighted and Wart becomes his squire, they all travel to London for a tournament. The old King Uther Pendragon has recently died leaving no heir and it is proclaimed that whoever can pull a mysterious sword from the stone will be the new King of England. While on an errand as Kay's squire, Wart pulls the sword from the stone without realizing what he's doing and is crowned King. Merlin later tells Wart that he is King Uther's illegitimate son and that Merlin had known this all along. In Book II, *The Queen of Air and Darkness*, we are introduced to the Orkney brothers—Gawaine, Gaheris, Gareth and Agravaine. They are Queen Morgause and King Lot's sons, and half-brothers to Arthur. Meanwhile, a young King Arthur is attempting to curtail the Gaelic revolt being led by King Lot. Arthur is beginning to plan how to rule when the battle is over. He comes up with the idea of the Round Table: the Order of the Knights of the Round Table will be his attempt to use Might for Right. He will band together knights who only use their power and violence for justice and the table will be round so that all knights are equal. Ultimately, Arthur squashes the rebellion and Queen Morgause comes to court, to reconcile with Arthur for King Lot. She ends up seducing him and gives birth to his son—Mordred. Book III, *The Ill-Made Knight*, tells the story of Lancelot. Lancelot is a boy when he first meets Arthur and decides he will become Arthur's greatest knight, although he suffers from internal conflicts about his unworthiness. Later, as a young knight at Arthur's court, Lancelot and Queen Guenever (Arthur's wife) fall in love. To escape his feelings for Guenever, Lancelot sets off on a series of quests that end in him being seduced by a young girl named Elaine. Returning to Camelot, Lancelot and Guenever begin an affair, although this abruptly ends when Elaine turns up carrying Lancelot's son. Lancelot is driven mad by Guenever's rage and wanders around England as wild, mad man for a number of years. Eventually, years later, Elaine recognizes Lancelot in a mad man upon the streets. He returns to Camelot, but finds that Arthur's Order has begun to unravel. The knights, because they have solved most of the injustice with their violence, have begun to turn on each other. Arthur resolves to send his knights off on a Quest for the Holy Grail to make them moral men. Three knights—Sir Bors, Sir Percival and Sir Galahad (Lancelot's son by Elaine)—eventually find the Grail but are too affected by their endeavor and never return. Lancelot returns, a holy and converted man and refuses to begin his relationship with Guenever again. However, after she is kidnapped and Lancelot rescues her, defending her honor, they quickly begin their relationship once more. In Book IV, *The Candle in the Wind*, Arthur's Order is truly broken. Agravaine and Arthur's son Mordred, fueled by hatred, set out to bring down Arthur's reign. They decide to use Arthur's new laws—to use a jury and proof to prove guilt, rather than trial by combat—to reveal Lancelot and Guenever's relationship. This they do and Guenever is almost executed, but rescued by Lancelot at the last moment. However, in rescuing Guenever, Lancelot kills two of the Orkney brothers (Gareth and Gaheris) who were unarmed. On the urging of Mordred and Gawaine, Arthur lays siege to Lancelot's castle. The lovers ask the Pope for pardon and are granted it—however, Lancelot is banished to France. Arthur and Gawaine follow Lancelot to France where they lay siege to him once more because Gawaine must avenge the deaths of his brothers. While they are away in France, Mordred falsely announces that the King is dead and announces himself as King. He also tries to force Guenever to marry him, but she barricades herself in the Tower of London. Arthur returns to England and Gawaine forgives Lancelot so that he can aid Arthur. The novel closes on the eve of the final battle against Mordred. Arthur knows that he will die in battle, but that Mordred will be defeated and his legacy of justice over violence will live on. The short story Arthur Becomes King of Britain is written by Terence Hanbury White (White, n.d.). The story is about Arthur, a young man who is belittled by his foster family. In a twist of fate, he becomes King of Britain when he extracts the sword from the anvil. Arthur, with no intention of becoming King, finds himself in unknown territory as he takes over the throne after the demise of the King (White, n.d.). This essay will critically analyze the short story Arthur Becomes King of Britain by Terence White to reveal its theme, tone, setting, purpose, and the figurative language used. Is your time best spent reading someone else's essay? Get a 100% original essay FROM A CERTIFIED WRITER! The story is set in Forest Sauvage which is the home of Arthur (White, n.d.). The story transits to London where Kay is escorted by his father Ector and foster brother Arthur in an attempt to become King (White, n.d.). White uses a humorous tone in the story. One instance that shows humor is the internal monologue Arthur has when he is sent to retrieve the sword. The conversations between the characters are also filled with humor. The first theme is the role of myths and legends in society. The Kingship system of Britain was such that the heir was the King's son (White, n.d.). If the King had no sons, legend had that the person who would remove the sword from the stone would be King (White, n.d.). In the end, Arthur becomes King when he pulls the sword out of the stone (White, n.d.). The second theme is the importance of humility and obedience. Arthur is a timid boy living with his foster father and brother. Arthur agrees to go to London to accompany his brother. When they arrive at London, Arthur is a squire and is sent to get a sword for his foster brother Kay (White, n.d.). In obedience to his brother's command, Arthur unknowingly retrieves the magical sword from the stone and is crowned King. The obedience and humility of Arthur are what made him become King, had he disobeyed his brother he would not have retrieved the sword. The purpose and the theme of the story are tied together. The objective of the story is to show how obedience and humility are repaid. The story also serves as a lesson not to look down on the less disadvantaged in society. Arthur the wart and the squire becomes King, and his father and brother have to kneel before him. White uses figurative language to draw the reader's attention and make the story captivating. One of the figurative languages used is metaphors. Arthurs is referred to as Wart (White, n.d.). A wart is a growth on the skin which represents something that is unwanted. When Arthur came into the house after the family had decided to go to London, White writes "... the Wart came in with Merlyn, and everybody was too excited to notice that... (White, n.d.)." White uses wart to show the status of Arthur in society as one who was looked down upon and given fringe responsibilities. White also uses symbolism in the form of the sword. The sword represented power since whoever retrieved it from the stone would be crowned King. Similes are also used with Sir Grummore remarking "He took a deep breath and goggled at his host with eyes like marbles (White, n.d.)." The eyes, in this case, are compared to marbles due to the similarity in their shapes. Conclusion In conclusion, the short story Arthur Becomes King of Britain by Terence White is set in Forest Sauvage and London. The main themes of the story are the role of myths and legends, and the importance of humility and obedience. White also makes use of figurative language in the form of symbolism, metaphors, and similes. This classical story serves the purpose of showing how good is rewarded seen in how Arthur a humble young boy becomes King. Reference White, T.H. (n.d.). Arthur Becomes King of Britain. Retrieved from The short story Arthur Becomes King of Britain is written by Terence Hanbury White (White, n.d.). The story is about Arthur, a young man who is belittled by his foster family. In a twist of fate, Arthur becomes King of Britain when he extracts the sword from the anvil. Arthur, with no intention of becoming King, finds himself in unknown territory as he takes over the throne after the demise of the King (White, n.d.). This essay will critically analyze the short story Arthur Becomes King of Britain by Terence White to reveal its theme, tone, setting, purpose, and the figurative language used. Is your time best spent reading someone else's essay? Get a 100% original essay FROM A CERTIFIED WRITER! The story is set in Forest Sauvage which is the home of Arthur (White, n.d.). The story transits to London where Kay is escorted by his father Ector and foster brother Arthur in an attempt to become King (White, n.d.). 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Next, is the purpose of the story. I believe that the purpose of this story was to entertain and inform people of this historical event. The entertainment from the fantasy vein and the informational portion from the history involved. Next, is the figurative language. Figurative language is often used to prove a point or to make a statement more appealing. In the story one example of the use of figurative language is, "Winning the palm" which means victory because a palm leaf is a symbol of victory. Another example is Archimedes, a talking owl, an example of personification. Next, is symbolism. The symbolism of the story of King Arthur is, strength, courage, and power. The kingdom and the knights of the round table stood for power. King Arthur's rule kindly and bravely over his people stood for courage, and the Kingdom of Camelot stood for power, for it being protected and sturdy. Lastly, I think that King Arthur of England, was a true hero because when he pulled the sword from the stone he was humble, and at first didn't want to accept his speech are metaphors, similes, and personification. Symbolism - A symbol is a character, place, thing or event that stands for something else, often an abstract idea. Theme - A theme is a general message or insight into life revealed through a literary work. It is basically what the writing suggests about people or life! The Analysis of King Arthur For this essay I will analyze, "Arthur Becomes King of Britain," by T.H. White. The story of King Arthur is about a young boy, who pulls a legendary sword out of stone, this sword, if pulled out, the person who pulled is immediately crowned, "Ruler of all England." And Arthur retrieves the sword from the stone, crowning him King. The rest of this essay will be comprised of what literary elements this story used and whether or not King Arthur was a true hero. First, the setting of the story. The story takes place mostly at a tournament in London, England. In the early third century, I know that this is the setting because in the story it says, "Perhaps, if you happen not to have lived in the Old England of the ... show more content... The tone of a story is the writer's attitude toward the subject or the audience/reader. The tone of "Arthur Becomes King of Britain" is, mostly serious and informal about King Arthur and how he became king, there are some elements of fantasy involved such as a talking owl, but the story stays pretty on the track of history. Next, is the purpose of the story. I believe that the purpose of this story was to entertain and inform people of this historical event. The entertainment from the fantasy vein and the informational portion from the history involved. Next, is the figurative language. Figurative language is often used to prove a point or to make a statement more appealing. 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It's a work that blends history, myth, fantasy, and comedy into a rich tapestry that has captivated readers for generations. T.H. White, an English author born in 1906, poured his vast knowledge of medieval life, his philosophical insights, and his personal musings on war and human nature into this masterpiece. The book is often praised for its exploration of themes such as justice, power, and human fallibility, all while maintaining a light-hearted and often humorous tone. Structured in four parts—"The Sword in the Stone, The Queen of Air and Darkness, The Ill-Made Knight, and The Candle in the Wind"—the novel not only reimagines the legend of King Arthur but also serves as a medium for White to address the complexities of modern society through the lens of a bygone era. Whether you're drawn to the chivalrous knights, the wisdom of Merlin, the tragic love triangles, or the quest for the Holy Grail, "The Once and Future King" offers something for everyone. It stands as a monumental work in the fantasy genre, exploring the eternal struggle between good and evil, the pursuit of wisdom, and the quest for a just society. Let's embark on this magical journey together, where knights joust, kings rule, and the fate of Camelot hangs in the balance. "The Once and Future King" by T.H. White is an expansive tale that reimagines the life of King Arthur, from his humble beginnings to his rise as the legendary ruler of Britain. Here's a detailed breakdown of the main events in the story: Exposition — The novel opens with "The Sword in the Stone," where we meet Arthur (nicknamed Wart) as a young boy living in Sir Ector's castle. Under the tutelage of Merlin, a wizard who lives backwards through time, Wart learns about leadership, justice, and the natural world through a series of magical transformations and adventures. Rising Action — Wart's destiny takes a dramatic turn when he pulls the sword from the stone, proving his right to be King of England. As King Arthur, he establishes the Round Table, promoting justice and chivalry among his knights. The Queen of Air and Darkness focuses on the early challenges of his reign, including tensions with the Orkney clan led by Morgause, Arthur's half-sister, and the mother of Gawain, Gaheris, Gareth, and Agravaine. Climax — In "The Ill-Made Knight," the focus shifts to Sir Lancelot, Arthur's greatest knight, and his tragic love affair with Queen Guenever. This part of the novel delves deep into Lancelot's internal conflicts and his quest for redemption. The affair between Lancelot and Guenever, coupled with the machinations of Mordred, Arthur's illegitimate son with Morgause, leads to the unraveling of the Round Table. Falling Action — The discovery of the affair by the other knights and Mordred's betrayal results in civil war. The novel's tension builds as Arthur's ideals and kingdom begin to crumble around him. The quest for the Holy Grail also takes place, symbolizing the spiritual and moral quests of the knights. Resolution — "The Candle in the Wind" brings Arthur's story to a close as he faces Mordred in a final battle. With Camelot in ruins and many of his knights dead, Arthur reflects on his failures and the cyclical nature of human history. The novel ends with Arthur sending a young page, Tom of Warwick, away from the battle to carry on the ideals of the Round Table, symbolizing the enduring legacy of his reign. "The Once and Future King" is a profound exploration of power, responsibility, and human fallibility, presenting Arthur not just as a mythical figure but as a deeply human character facing the complexities of governance and morality. "The Once and Future King" by T.H. White features a rich tapestry of characters, each contributing to the novel's exploration of themes such as leadership, morality, and the human condition. Here's a closer look at the main characters: Arthur (Wart) — The central figure of the story, Arthur transforms from a simple farm boy into a wise and just king. His character is defined by his idealism, compassion, and the quest for justice. Arthur's innovations, like the Round Table, showcase his desire for a egalitarian society. Throughout the novel, his experiences reveal the complexities and burdens of leadership. Merlin — Arthur's mentor, Merlin possesses the unique ability to live backward through time. This grants him a profound wisdom which he imparts to Arthur. Merlin is eccentric yet insightful, using his magical abilities to teach Arthur valuable lessons about life, duty, and nature. He is a father figure to Arthur, guiding him towards becoming a great king. Guenever — The Queen of Camelot and Arthur's wife, Guenever is a complex character torn between her duty to her husband and her love for Lancelot. Her character explores themes of love, loyalty, and the consequences of our choices. Guenever's strength and intelligence make her a formidable figure in the court, despite the societal constraints placed upon her. Lancelot — Known as the greatest knight of the Round Table, Lancelot's life is marked by his undying loyalty to Arthur and his tormented love affair with Guenever. His quest for perfection and redemption is driven by a deep-seated sense of unworthiness. Lancelot's character delves into the conflicts between personal desire, duty, and honor. Mordred — Arthur's illegitimate son and eventual antagonist, Mordred embodies the destructive forces of envy and ambition. Raised in hatred of Arthur by Morgause, Mordred's actions lead to the downfall of Camelot. His character serves as a tragic reminder of the consequences of Arthur's youthful indiscretions and the fragility of ideals. 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