EXAMPLE- Prompt: How do Junior and Sherman Alexie view reservation life in the book The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian? (THIS IS JUST AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO COMPLETE THE CHART! THIS IS NOT YOUR PROMPT! DO NOT WRITE FIND EVIDENCE OR WRITE A PAPER ON PART-TIME INDIAN)

Citation

In The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian," Sherman Alexie discusses the hardships Junior had to face living on the reservation. Alexie states, "We only know how to lose and be lost" (Alexie, 32).

Analysis Part 1

BOX 1

Revised Analysis Part 1

BOX 1

- -Junior uses "we" to refer to himself and the other residents living on the reservation
- -Definition of lost- 1. unable to find one's way, or 2. something that has been taken away or cannot be recovered
- -Definition of lose- 1. To be lack of or end to owning something, or 2. become unable to find
- -Repetition of present and past form of the word lose
- -Junior's tone is unhopeful & defeated

all of the other Indian members of his community when he states "we." "Lost" is defined as "something that has been taken away or cannot be recovered, or the inability to find one's way" (dictionary.com). The definition of the word "lose" is "the ending of owning something, or becoming unable to find" (dictionary.com). Alexie repeats the present and past form of the verb "to lose" to enforce the significance of idea of misplacement and give a tone of hopelessness and vanished

The use of the pronoun "we" refers to a collective

group. Junior is referring to himself, his family, and

Analysis Part 2

BOX 2

Revised Analysis Part 2

opportunities.

BOX 2

- life on the reservation is consistently unhopeful and wasteful. Paints negative view of Rez life.
- -Repetition of present and past form of the word lose emphasize theme of a departed (synonym for lose/lost) dreams, goals, opportunity
- -Junior's tone is makes the reader feel Junior's hopelessness, and suggest that change is not a possibility on the Rez
- -Living on the Rez means repeatedly learning to accept dreams and goals as a thing of the past, because all anyone knows how to do is lose them and it is a vicious repetitive cycle.
- -Through everyone failing at bettering themselves, Rez life is one where dreams and goals are lost and a better life is unattainable

Through Junior's statement Alexie speaks to the negative affect of reservation life on himself and the members of his community. Alexie's repetition of the present and past form of the verb "to lose" emphasizes the idea that Junior feels that he and his community continuously live in an environment of misplaced and wasted dreams. To state that these goals and opportunities have been lost, suggests that they were once there, but now are a thing of the past. No one on the Rez is able to find the dreams and aspirations they once might have had. This creates an environment of hopelessness that is unchangeable because it is the only way the community knows how to live. Rez life is a vicious and defeating cycle of neglected potential that has beaten down the community into a life of repeated failures. Junior sees this as something that is unchangeable, because it is the only thing his community knows how to do. Through Junior, Alexie paints reservation life as a repetitive miserable existence of repeated unachieved success.