

Name _____

Date _____

Violence in "The New Kid"

Read through Murray Heyert's short story, "The New Kid." Make a list of acts of threatened and actual violence below.

Threatened or Actual:	Committed by:	Toward:	For what purpose:
(check one)	(character's name)	(character's name)	

What details does Heyert include that show Marty's insecurity? Please name three.
1.
2.
3.
4. How does Heyert describe Marty's fumble? What does it tell us about Marty?
5. Whose idea is it that Marty and the new kid should fight?
6. Why do you think the others encourage it?
7. In the beginning of the fight, does Marty want to fight the new kid? Using quotations for the text, explain your answer.
8. What gives Marty the confidence to fight the new kid? Again, please include quotations from the text to explain your answer.

9. Describe Marty's fantasies after the fight.
10. Marty undergoes a transformation in this short story. How does he change?
11. After reading and reflecting on the story, how would you define the violence within it? Is it just physical aggression that qualifies as violent, or threats and verbal abuse as well? Please explain your answer.
12. Which is the most damaging to the characters? Please explain.
13. What do the violent characters in the story gain?
14. What alternatives course of action did Marty have?
15. Overall, what do you think that Heyert is saying about violence through this story? Please explain your answer with evidence from the text.

