

Name _____

Period _____

Standards Focus: Setting

Setting is the time and place in which the action of a story takes place. Setting contributes greatly to the mood of a piece of literature. **Mood** is the general feeling, or atmosphere, that is created by the writer. Writers use figurative language, details, dialogue, foreshadowing, and setting to help set the mood in a piece of literature.

Before Act One begins, the setting is given in the stage directions. The play takes place *during the 1880s, in and around the Keller homestead in Tusculumbia, Alabama and briefly at the Perkins Institution for the Blind in Boston*. However, there are other indications within the play that reveal the time period and location.

Directions: Complete the following chart identifying clues of the setting from Acts One and Two. Two examples have been done for you. After you have completed the chart, answer the questions at the bottom of the page.

Quote from the Text	Conclusion
Keller: "I'll see you to your buggy, Doctor."	They do not have cars. It was before the automobile was invented, or was easily available.
Stage Directions: <i>He beams a good night at the baby and Kat, and Keller leads him downstairs with a lamp.</i>	They do not have electricity; instead, they use a lamp for light. Electricity was probably not invented, or was not widely used yet.

1. How would you describe the general mood of the play? How does the setting contribute to the mood of the play? _____

2. How do you think this story so far would have been different, had it taken place in our society today? _____