

THE ROCKING-HORSE WINNER

COPY MASTER

Literary Analysis

THEME

The **theme** of a story is the underlying message about life or human nature that the writer wants readers to understand. In fiction, writers almost never directly state the theme. Instead, they develop it using literary elements.

Directions: Answer the questions in the graphic. Then use your answers to infer the message Lawrence is communicating about materialism.

What ideas does the **title** highlight?

What are the **characters'** dominant **traits** and **motivations**?

What is the main **conflict**?

How is the **setting** important to the story?

Possible Theme: