

**NOVEL IDEAS**  
**C. S. LEWIS'**  
**THE MAGICIAN'S**  
**NEPHEW**



**THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA**  
**BOOK #1**



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### **Novel Ideas**

## **C. S. Lewis' The Magician's Nephew**

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# **USING THE NOVEL STUDY**

The novel study can be used in four ways:

- Independent reading at student created paced
- Small group independent reading at student created paced
- Small group reading guided by the teacher
- Whole class reading guided by the teacher

Each chapter or set of chapters has a particular task:

## **Vocabulary:**

Students need to be able to write the definition/meaning of the word in their own words as the word is used in the story. If they are unable to, they need to find the word in the dictionary and match the correct definition with the context that the word is used in the book.

## **Short response questions:**

The questions come in two forms. The first is basic comprehension directly from the story. This is your “Who, What, Where, When, Why and How” question.

The second form is analysis of information and events in the story. The student is required to explain an answer, respond as if they were in the story, or state what they think the character(s) should do.

The remaining sections are key components in studying literature in a detailed and meaningful way. The directions for each part are given within each section.

**THE NOVEL STUDY CAN BE PRINTED AND STAPLED AS A PACKET USING THE INTRODUCTION AS THE COVER PAGE.**

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# **THE MAGICIAN'S NEPHEW**

## **BY**

### **C. S. LEWIS**

*Digory and Polly are exploring one day and come across Digory's Uncle Andrew. He sends them on an experiment to see what two different colored magical rings do. Little did Uncle Andrew know but he sent them on an adventure like to other. They, with a few other fellow travelers, are sent to a new world that is just being created. This world is called Narnia. Thus beginnings your exciting adventure into the world of Narnia.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## **PRE-READING ACTIVITY**

1. How can curiosity become a dangerous thing? Give some examples of when this could happen.

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2. Could there ever be a time when you would need to break a promise? Explain.

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## CHAPTER ONE TO CHAPTER TWO

### VOCABULARY

| Word            | Page # | Meaning/Definition |
|-----------------|--------|--------------------|
| Grubby          |        |                    |
| Indignantly     |        |                    |
| Cistern         |        |                    |
| Narrow-mindedly |        |                    |
| Profound        |        |                    |
| Preposterous    |        |                    |
| Chivalry        |        |                    |

1. Why did Digory have to move to London?

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2. How could you tell he did not like living in London?

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3. If you were Digory or Polly would you want to explore the empty house? Why or why not?

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4. Did Digory and Polly make it to the empty house? Where did they end up?

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5. Why did Polly disappear? Where is she?

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6. How has Uncle Andrew planned for Polly to return?

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7. What would you do if you were Digory?

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# **POINT OF VIEW ACTIVITY**

Have you ever heard the expression, ‘...walk in someone else’s shoes...’? What that means is looking at a situation or event from someone else’s life. When you read a story, the author is trying to help you imagine what the character is thinking to help you understand why the character did something. Have you ever felt like you wouldn’t have done an event the same way a character did it in a book?

Think about a scene from a movie or television show you have recently watched where a character, or a group of characters, had a point of view that was different than yours for the situation they were in. Fill in the chart below for two separate shows or movies.

| Name of the character | What the character did | What you would have done |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
|                       |                        |                          |
|                       |                        |                          |

Uncle Andrew sent an unaware Polly to the Otherworld. Digory thought it cowardly for Uncle Andrew to have sent her and not go himself. Uncle Andrew did not think himself a coward. There are two points of view in this situation. Use the table below to identify the two points of view and use supporting details from the book.

|              | Each Point of View | Details that support this view |
|--------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Digory       |                    |                                |
| Uncle Andrew |                    |                                |

## **POINT OF VIEW CONTINUED...**

Directions: Write a letter from Digory's point of view, asking for advice on convincing Uncle Andrew that his choice of sending Polly was cowardly.

- Tell the person that you are writing to the main problem(s) that you are having.
- Ask for his/her advice on how to deal with the situation. Be specific about the kind of advice that you want.
- Thank him/her for taking the time to read your letter.
- Correct spelling, punctuation, capitalization, and grammar.

Planning Page

Introduction: List the problem(s) you are having:

List what specific advice you are going to ask for in the letter:

Conclusion: Notes on how you would end your letter.

