

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# GRIM

Read the text and answer the questions.



Bill's life was over. A shark attack was the last way he thought he'd die, but such is life. Such was life... Bill thought as he made his way to the underworld. He was met at the gates of the underworld by Grim, the gatekeeper of the dead. "I have an offer for you," Grim grumbled in a deep tone. "I will let you return to earth if you take the life of your dog," he said with glee. Bill agreed and returned home as if nothing happened. In the backyard was his dog, Charlie. He never had any strong feelings towards him, and always felt he was a nuisance. But something was different now. Charlie seemed more affectionate and loving, almost as if he knew Bill had a mission.

Bill took Charlie down to the lake to carry out the task that would ultimately save his life. Take the life of my dog and I'll survive," Bill thought to himself. "He's just a dog," he muttered over and over. The wind blew quickly at the lake, and sun shone with intent. Bill never felt more alive, but at the same time wished he was asleep. Charlie barked with a quiet affection, and gazed into the eyes of his owner. Guilt was written all over Bill's face, and stained on his heart. He took a deep breath, put Charlie down and walked home. Life was not worth this. Bill found himself back at the gate of the underworld with Grim staring into his soul. "You're a fool," he muttered. Bill smiled and walked through the gates without another thought.

- What would you do if you were in Bill's position? Explain why.
- What does 'he said with glee' mean?
- How did his dog behave when Bill returned to the world?
- How did Bill feel as he walked through the gates at the end?
- What did Grim offer Bill?
- How would you describe Bill? Explain in detail.