

# “The Moustache” by Robert Cormier

## Reading Check

1. What clues tell Mike that it is not one of his grandmother’s “good days”?
2. Who does his grandmother think he is? Why?
3. What event in the past is she sorry about?
4. Why does Mike’s visit give his grandmother her only chance to be forgiven?

## First Thoughts

Copy three short passages from the text that made a strong impression on you. On the right, jot down your thoughts about each passage.

Passage	Thoughts
5.	6.
7.	8.
9.	10.

Write down two examples of internal thoughts:


**Write down two examples of external story (Descriptions and dialogue).**


**Shaping Interpretations**

11. What **inference** can you make about the fact that when Mike returns from the nursing home he does not tell his mother about what happened there?

12. Mike directly reveals a lot about himself in this story, but he doesn't tell us why he shaves off his moustache. What can you **infer** about his reasons for the shave?

13. What do Mike and his grandmother give each other? (What is passed from generation to generation?)

**Connecting with the Text**

14. Go back towards the end of the story, and reread the paragraph starting, "My grandmother." Have you ever come to a similar realization about an adult in your life? If so, what event brought you that awareness?

**Challenging the Text**

15. Does Mike do the right thing by saying "I forgive you, Meg"? What would you have done if you were Mike?