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**Fiction 3 p 446**  
**Morning in Nagrebcan by Manuel E. Arguilla**

**Vocabulary at Work**

- stray goats- a domestic goat that wanders around
- bitch- a female dog, wolf, fox, or otter.
- rice straw- vegetative part of the rice plant cut at grain harvest or after
- clay stove- stoves that are predominantly sand, with merely enough clay to glue the sand together
- husky legs- strong; hefty.
- Bawl- shout or call out noisily and unrestrainedly.
- Whore- a person who engages in promiscuous sex for money

which is an allegory of the Garden of Paradise and of the loss of innocence, as well as of the presence of evil in the world. The story begins in perfect pastoral innocence

**After Reading**

*Character Analysis*

1. Draw a table with three columns: characters (include animals), positive traits, and negative traits.
2. Fill-out the table.
3. Groups' outputs are posted on the board/screen for comparison.
4. Students discuss the comparison of the outputs.
5. What are common among the mothers: Nana Elang and the bitch? Is Nana Elang a good mother?
  
6. Do you like Tang Ciako's treatment to his wife and children? Is there any remedy to his rudeness?
  
7. Is he a father worthy of emulation? How did you say that?
  
8. Who is to blame in the fight of the brothers? Why?
  
9. What do you think will be the future of the boys?

*Themes and Symbols*

1. What realities of life do you see in the following:
  - Physical fight of the brothers
  - The mother like Nana Elang
  - The reconciliation of the brothers
  - Tang Ciako's rudeness

2. What do the following symbolize? Give their meanings.
  - The sun at the beginning and end of the story
  - The black-spotted puppy
  - The eating of banana with its skin
  - The single bamboo pole that served as the railing

### *Visual Appeal*

1. Read from the text the parts that give you an image of their poor house and surrounding.
2. What is your interpretation of the image?

### *Emotional Appeal*

1. Read the parts that stir your emotion.

### **Literary Approach**

#### *(Feminism)*

1. Comment on Tang Ciako's treatment of Nana Elang.
2. Is the bitch a good mother to her puppies?
3. If you were the author will you treat Nana Elang the same?

#### *(New Historicism/Cultural Studies)*

1. The author, Manuel E. Arguilla, spent his childhood in Nagrebcan, Bauang, La Union, his birthplace. This was a peaceful place he immortalized in his stories. Enumerate the cultures of the place that you have seen in the story.
2. Do you think these are the same at present?
3. Are there words or things in the story which are scarce or not present anymore?