

## ***Analysis of Language 10***

### **Figurative Language**

#### **Ellipses & Punctuation**

Work with a partner to think about how the writer uses ellipses and exclamation marks in the excerpt below and then answer the questions that follow.

"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"

–Dr. Seuss, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*

1) Circle the ellipses and the exclamation marks.

2) Practice reading the last sentence aloud (but not *too* loud!) with a partner. Read it in different ways, using the ellipses to help with the meaning! What kinds of things do you notice?

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3) Why do ellipses have the power to change the effect of the meaning for the reader?

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4) It's not always good to use too many exclamation marks close together. Why does that not seem to be the case here? If the writer had used periods instead, or just one exclamation mark, how would the attitude of the speaker also change?

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