

Son of the Mob

by Gordon Forman

Timeline

Create a timeline to summarize the most important events of *Son of the Mob*.

A blank timeline template consisting of a central vertical line. On each side of the line, there are three rectangular boxes with a decorative scalloped top edge, intended for students to write and draw important events from the novel.

Attribute Wheel: Vince Luca

We learn a lot about Vince in Chapters 1 and 2. Fill in this attribute wheel with information about Vince's personality, physical attributes, interests, and anything else that describes him. Continue to add information as you read.

An attribute wheel diagram. It features a central circle with the name 'Vince' written inside. A semi-circle is drawn above the circle, and lines radiate from the center of the circle to the edge of the semi-circle, dividing it into several segments for students to record different attributes of the character.

Check for Understanding - Chapters 1 and 2

1. After reading Chapter 1, write 2-4 sentences to describe what you know about the Luca family business. _____

2. Describe how Jimmy Rat got in the trunk of Vince's car. _____

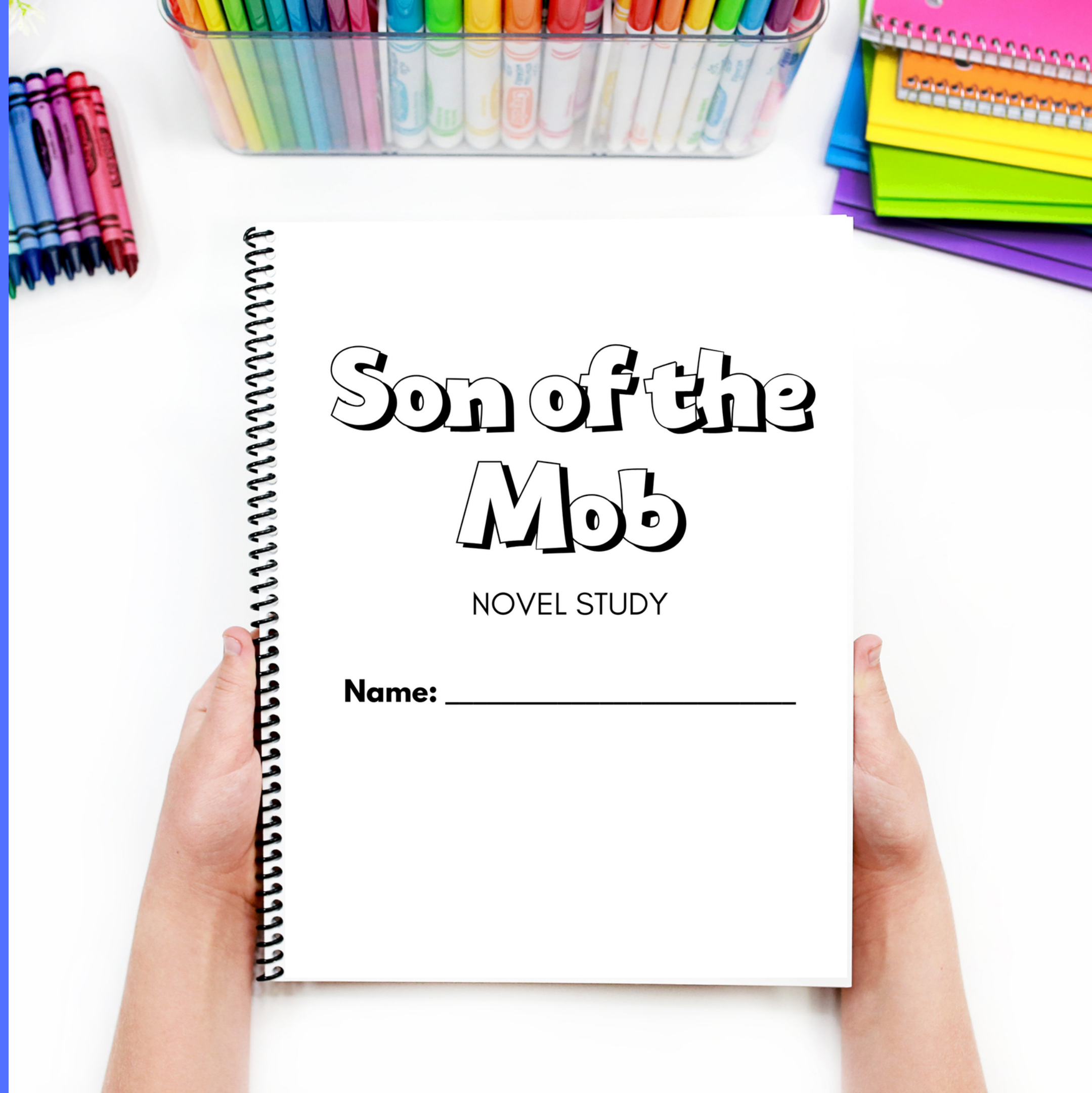
3. Describe a couple of the events that began to make Vince suspicious of the family business. _____

4. Would you be scared to have a father like Vince's father? Why or why not? _____

NOVEL STUDY

This novel study is the perfect companion to *Son of the Mob* by Gordon Korman.

Pick and choose the pages that support your classroom goals, or create student booklets with all the activities and have students work through them as they read.



In this novel study, you'll find end-of-chapter comprehension questions that will help students build their understanding as they read. They'll also make predictions and make important connections.

Use these as written activities or for oral discussion.



Check for Understanding - Chapters 5 and 6

1. Describe Vince's opinion of the college party. _____

2. Explain why Vince kisses Kendra. _____

3. Explain the humor in the following paragraph: "Dad must have said it a million times, 'Lousy FBI agents!' I never realized he was talking about their families' personal hygiene." (p.69) _____

Check for Understanding - Chapters 9 and 10

1. If you were in Vince's position, would you have taken the money from Jimmy Rat to give to your father? Do you think this puts Vince in a criminal position? _____

2. In your opinion, is Vince doing a good job of hiding his secret life? Why or why not? _____

3. Explain the significance of the last two lines of Chapter 10: "Oh sure, eventually." The next ice age is coming eventually, too. (p. 123) _____

Check for Understanding - Chapters 3 and 4

1. Why does Alex think that he and Vince should join the football team? _____

2. Why does no one tackle Vince when he is playing football? _____

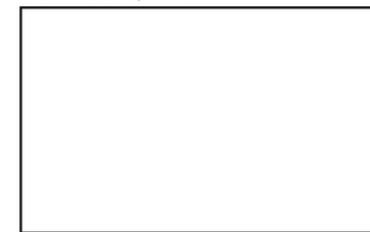
3. If you were Vince, would you have quit the football team, or would you have taken advantage of the opportunity to score more touchdowns? Explain. _____

4. Explain why Vince says, "If you're planning on breaking the law, break all of them," on page 43? _____

Predict - Will Vince be upset with Tommy for the call girl incident?

List new words that you learned in this chapter.

Draw a picture of your favorite scene from this chapter.



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Check for Understanding - Chapters 7 and 8

Why Vince buys thirty dollars worth of food and takes it to the food bank at Chapter 7. _____

Is Alex jealous of Vince's relationship with Kendra? _____

Explain your understanding of the following line: "Dating someone who's busy is just as being busy yourself. I may be just a moth to a flame, but every time moves, I end up following it." (p.93) _____

4. List at least four adjectives or phrases that describe Tommy. _____

Make a Connection - In Chapter 8, Tommy speaks of feeling like a screw-up. Have you ever felt that you weren't good at something? How did it feel?

What consequences might _____

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You'll also find a wide variety of engaging activities to reinforce other skills such as cause and effect, punctuation, character attributes, transition words, and more!



Interpret the Simile

Gordon Korman uses many similes in his descriptions in Chapters 1 and 2. A simile uses **like** or **as** to compare two different things. Read the similes in the table and write your interpretation of each one's meaning.

Simile	Your Interpretation (What does it mean?)
"Tommy's on the warpath, storming through the house like a caged tiger , and ranting about how Benny the Zit is supposed to be here to pick him up for some business or other." (p. 1)	
" The Lucas are built like trucks . How did I come out a beanpole..." (p. 3)	
"The point is, every as if the Supreme P stepped in to set it " (p. 6)	
"Tommy's loud, cruel with a temper like a " (p. 24)	
"They don't yell at they look as if I'm s we barbecue Mom spit. " (p. 25)	

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Synonym Scavenger Hunt

Look through Chapters 7 and 8 for synonyms of the words below.

- Look on page 77 for a word that means **prohibit**.
The word is: _____
- Look on page 80 for a word that means **negotiate**.
give and take.
The word is: _____
- Look on page 83 for a word that means **accident**.
luck.
The word is: _____
- Look on page 86 for a word that means **nameless**.
The word is: _____
- Look on page 95 for a word that means **alternatives**.
opportunities.
The word is: _____
- Look on page 96 for a word that means **sad, down-hearted** or **glum**.
The word is: _____
- Look on page 98 for a word that means **bitterness, anger** or **dislike**.
The word is: _____

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Sequencing and Transition Words

Here is a list of transition words to use when retelling the events of a story.

first	to begin with	in the morning	also
finally	lastly	second	third
next	now	later	at noon
after that	then	first of all	

Use some of these transition words to retell the main events of Chapter 12 in chronological order.

Cause and Effect

Fill in the empty boxes to show cause and effect from Chapters 17 and 18. In the last set of boxes, add your own cause and effect situation from *Son of the*.

CAUSE	EFFECT
Fiona suggests that Compassionate Conservation might be named after a horse. (p. 222)	
	Jimmy and Ed burnt down their bars for the insurance money. (p. 241)
	The evidence for Calabrese case was ruined. (p. 242)

Take the guesswork out of planning your next literature unit with this complete, comprehensive novel study!

