



Do Now #8

Name: _____

Date: _____

Look at the two pages below. What is similar about them? What is different?

Chapter Four
**ISSUES IN
FOSTER CARE**

Foster care is not supposed to be permanent. As discussed earlier, reunification is by far the first-choice outcome for most foster kids.

Unfortunately, not everybody gets his or her first choice. For one thing, not all parents are up for the challenge of addressing their issues. They may not be willing to get treatment for a drug problem, or they may not be able to stay clean. Some problems are just not fixable. Sometimes people are so damages themselves that they can't stop hurting others—it may never be safe to live with them, no matter what. In these cases, the best solution may be what's called *termination of parental rights*. That's when parents sign away all legal claims. In the eyes of the law, they become strangers to their child at that point. Termination sounds awful, and in a way it certainly is. But it can also be a good thing, because it paves the way for...

Words to Understand

limbo: a state of transition or change
supervised: overseen by someone else
transitional: moving from one condition to the next
traumas: extremely upsetting events

First Job

ON A HOT SUMMER DAY, Alex sat on the couch, sipping from a tall glass of homemade eggnog that he and his six-year-old brother, Jaime, had whipped up in the blender.

(From *Local News* by Gary Soto)

Similarities

Differences