

THE NOTORIOUS JUMPING FROG OF CALAVERAS COUNTY

COPY MASTER

Text Analysis**TALL TALE**

A **tall tale** is a folk tale with exaggerated characters and events. It generally aims to fool or impress the reader using the devices in the first column of the following chart.

Directions: In this chart, record examples of the features of a tall tale found in “The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County.” Then answer the question that follows. An example has been done for you.

Characteristics of Tall Tales	Examples
Hyperbole (a figure of speech exaggerating the truth)	
Understatement (a technique that downplays the significance of the outlandish to ironic or humorous effect)	
Local color (the inclusion of dress, mannerisms, customs, character types, and speech from a particular region)	“I found Simon Wheeler dozing comfortable by the barroom stove of the dilapidated tavern in the decayed mining camp.”

In the story, the first-person narrator hears a story told by Simon Wheeler. How would the story be different if the original first-person narrator had told the story in his own voice?
