**A Tree is a Plant**

**Level 1: What does the text say?**

General Understanding:

* Why can’t Ruby go to school with the other children?

Key Details:

* Why did Ruby go to school alone?
* What were the reasons why white families chose to remove their children from school?

**Level 2: How does the text work?**

Vocabulary:

Structure:

* Compare/Contrast – how are Ruby and her teacher alike or different?

Author’s Craft:

* On page 7, the author Robert Coles wrote these words “be a credit to her own people and all American people”, Ruby’s mother hoped. What does her mother mean by this statement?

**Level 3: What does the text mean?**

Author’s Purpose:

* Does the Author have a lesson on mind set throughout the story?
* What does Robert Coles want boys & girls to learn from this?

Intertextual Connections:

* How could a six year old child be calm and show such calmness?

**Level 4: What does the text inspire me to do? What does it mean to me?**

Opinion with Evidence or Argument:

* Ruby stops and prays for the people outside her school as she walks into school. What would your reaction be if you were in Ruby’s situation?
* What other dangers do you feel Ruby, her teacher, families, and parents may have experienced outside of school?