



## A Lesson on My Summer by Meghan Quinn

**Grade Level:** Grade 3

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour 30 minutes

**Lesson Keywords:** Vocabulary, Discussion, Writing

**Lesson Description:** In this lessons students will have to choose the correct meaning and use of certain words from the passage. They will have to use context clues and pull from the passage to answer critical thinking questions. Last they will have to use their own background knowledge relating a personal event to the passage and writing two paragraphs answering the topic.

### Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.1: Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.3.6: Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or those of the characters.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 3 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.7: Use information gained from illustrations (e.g., maps, photographs) and the words in a text to demonstrate understanding of the text (e.g., where, when, why, and how key events occur).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

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## Lesson Content: Book/Story/Reading Passage

**Instructions:** Please read the following reading passage as many times as needed (aloud and silent) before starting to go through other lesson pages. Understanding the content of this passage is very important since the lesson activities will be all about this content. Feel free to print the passage if needed.

### My Summer

by

**Content:** My grandmother lives in Phoenix. It has been ten years since she moved there. I was only 2 years old when she left Chicago. She had to move to a warmer climate because the winters in Chicago were too cold. She went to her doctor and he said that she could not stay in such a cold climate. She was sorry to leave because she had her family here and her friends. But soon she made more friends in Phoenix.

My mother goes to visit her in winter. I can't go because I have to be in school, but last summer I went for a long visit.

I traveled by plane to Phoenix. I had never been on an airplane before. It was very exciting. When we landed, the pilot said it was 110 degrees. I thought I had not heard him clearly. It had never been that hot in Chicago.

I got off the plane and saw my grandmother right away. We were both so happy I was there. She gave me a big long hug and then we went to get my suitcase. It took about 10 minutes to get it. I was worried that they had lost it, but then we saw it.

After that, we went outside. I was so surprised because it felt like being in a heater. It was hotter than I had ever felt. It was 110 degrees.

We went to the bus stop and the bus came right away. I got on and was so glad it came so quickly. It was cool because it was air-conditioned. It took about 30 minutes for us to get to her block. I didn't mind the long ride because it was interesting to look outside the window. People had brown grass. It was all dried out. And they didn't have trees. They had really big cactus plants.

When we got off the bus, we had to walk three more blocks to her apartment. I became so hot again. I asked my grandmother, How can you live in such a hot place?

Oh, you get used to it, she said. It turned out that she was right. It took a few weeks, but I got used to the heat. But we stayed inside when it was hottest. We went out in the morning when it was cooler, and at night it even felt a little chilly.

I went home at the end of summer. My mother came to meet me at the airport. She picked up my suitcase, and then we got on the bus. She asked me all about my trip. I told her, You're lucky you don't go in summer. But it is always great to be with grandma. My mother said, I miss her a lot. Next time I'll go with you.

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## Task 1: Vocabulary

**Instructions:** Please complete the following vocabulary activity by choosing the correct meaning of each word selected from the passage and use of each word correctly in a sentence.

**Q: 1 WordPhrase:** Climate **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** In the story the author said "She had to move to a warmer climate because the winters in Chicago were too cold." What does the word "climate" mean in this sentence?

- A: Climbing
- B: Weather or temperature
- C: Water
- D: Area

**Question:** In which sentence below is the word "climate" used correctly?

- A: The climate in the desert is hot
- B: They found a climate in the forest
- C: The climate was not able to help the trees grow
- D: There was a climate on top of the mountain

**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** Plane **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** In the story the author mentions "I got off the plane and saw my grandmother right away." What does the word "plane" mean in this sentence?

- A: A flat piece of land
- B: A pizza with no toppings
- C: A form of transportation
- D: Something boring

**Question:** Choose which sentence below uses the word "plane" correctly.

- A: I ordered a plane cheese pizza at dinner
- B: We hiked through the planes
- C: It was a pretty plane day at school today
- D: I took a plane to visit family in Alabama

**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** Degrees **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** In the story the author says "When we landed, the pilot said it was 110 degrees." What does the word "degrees" mean in this sentence?

- A: People
- B: The temperature
- C: A feeling
- D: One of the four seasons

**Question:** In which sentence below is the word "degrees" used correctly?

- A: He has two different college degrees
- B: It felt like it was 100 degrees outside
- C: You can earn different kinds of degrees
- D: The degrees really took a toll on my hair

**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** Summer **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** In the story the author states "I went home at the end of summer." What does the word "summer" mean in this sentence?

- A: One of the four seasons
- B: A name for a girl
- C: A type of plant
- D: Something you can see

**Question:** In which of the four sentences is the word "summer" used correctly?

- A: Summer has pretty red hair
- B: There were different kinds of summer planted in the garden
- C: The four seasons are Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall
- D: It was a nice vacation to summer

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## Task 2: Forum Discussion

**Instructions:** This discussion forum will have questions for students to respond. Read the posted questions, and respond to each. Students are responsible for posting one initial and two peer responses for each topic.

### 1 - Why grandma moved...

In the story the grandmother had to move from Chicago to Phoenix. What was the reason for the move?

### 2 - Difference in plants...

In the story the author says how People had brown grass. It was all dried out. And they didn't have trees. They had really big cactus plants. Why do you think there is such a difference in plants in Phoenix then in Chicago???

### 3 - Summer visits...

When the author returned from his trip his mother asked how it was? His reply was You're lucky you don't go in summer. For what reason do you think he would say that?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** During the story the author explain the differences he noticed between where his grandmother lived in Phoenix to his hometown of Chicago. Have you ever visited somewhere that was different than where you lived? Explain in two paragraphs how the place you visited was different and what you think makes the differences between this place and your home.

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