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A Lesson on A Good Student by Chelsea Catarelli

Grade Level: Grade 7

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 45 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Writing, Reading, and Thinking skills through comparing and contrasting

Lesson Description: The goal of this lesson is to help students learn reading and writing skills they have already developed on a deeper level than their daily use of them. Students will practice rereading the story and analyzing the text through answering vocabulary questions and written responses. This story will help students understand comparing and contrasting as well as time management.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.1: Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.7.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of rhymes and other repetitions of sounds (e.g., alliteration) on a specific verse or stanza of a poem or section of a story or drama.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.7.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.

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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.

A Good Student

by

Content: I was extremely glad I had been to the freshman orientation. The high school was tremendously large, so the orientation helped me immensely. I figured out where my classrooms were located, and I was also able to meet some of the teachers. I even had a new friend. I met another student who was really interested in sports, like me, and we were both going to try out for the basketball team. I really hope we make the team.

Today was my first day, and it was very difficult. We only have four minutes to get from one class to another. Even though I knew where the classrooms were, I still had to manage to get from one end of the building to the other in that short amount of time. I wanted to go to my locker and drop off my book, so I did just that. However, that took some time, and I worried about being late. Unfortunately, I did end up arriving late to my math class. My math teacher told me, Just be on time tomorrow, because I know you are finding your way, but thats it. I am serious only one late-to-class is allowed. After that, you must go to the office to request a pass, and I will mark you tardy. Once you are tardy three times you must serve a detention.

I really enjoyed my art class that first day. The teacher showed us how to create portraits. We just made drawings today, but I know its going to be a wonderful class. While I very much enjoy drawing, I had no idea it was so closely related to math. I divided my page into equal sections, using a ruler, and then worked on my sketch.

I like my English class, too. Today we wrote about ourselves. The teacher said to just write what you think in the form of a paragraph or a poem, and that we will focus on grammar later. I composed a poem about myself, and I believe it is a good poem.

Lunch was particularly hurried. I went to my locker first before rushing to the cafeteria. I scanned the cafeteria for my friend, but he wasnt there, so I sat with people I hadnt met. Everyone was eating very quickly. There were several lunch choices, but tomorrow I will choose differently. The food I got today looked tasty, but I didnt like it very much.

There is an after-school club I can join. It is a club for people who want to learn more about computers, and I think Ill sign up. But there is another club after-school that interests me, too: the chess club. I enjoy playing chess. I also need to learn how to use a computer. My social studies teacher claims it is the one skill you need to learn every subject. My English teacher said the one skill I need in every class is writing. I think I need both skills. So many possibilities its going to be a good year.

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: form **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In this story, the author says "... write what you think in the form of a paragraph or a poem..." What does the word form mean in this sentence?

A: to shape something

B: appearance

C: to construct

D: to play

Question: Which of the following sentences uses the word "form" properly?

A: Johnny likes to form stories to share with the class.

B: Dogs form food during the night.

C: Cats form better to day time than night time.

D: This school has a lot of forms to fill out.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Compose **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the sentence, "I composed a poem about myself..." what does compose mean? \r\n

A: A description

B: To write

C: A picture

D: An object

Question: Which of these sentences uses the word "compose" properly?

A: The student composed a story about a ghost and his friend.

B: The snake composed his dinner.

C: The weather is composed daily.

D: She took the composed flower outside.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Orientation **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: What does the word "Orientation" mean in the passage?

A: How not to do something

B: Act

C: Learn

D: To help understand the process or ways of a new thing.

Question: Which sentence uses the word "orientation" correctly?

A: The students finished their oreintation yesterday.

B: Sall's orientation was broken by her little brother.

C: Orientation is the name of a popular band.

D: Orientation is a province in Canada.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Scanned **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: In the sentence, "I scanned the cafeteria..." How does the author use the word "scanned"?

A: To explain how to something could be sent.

B: Used in replace of saying to look.

C: Used to say hello.

D: To replace the word thinking.

Question: Which of the following sentences uses the word "scanned" correctly?

A: Emily scanned the paperwork to her boss.

B: I scanned the ocean for dolphins.

C: George scanned the cat.

D: The ocean scanned the coral reefs.

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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 does everyone eat lunch quickly?

Why does everyone eat lunch quickly? Do you think lunch time can be a little crazy? Do you eat your lunch quickly??

2 - Do you think joining an after-school club is important in high school?

In the story, the student talks about joining an after-school club. Do you think that is important? Why? Should the student worry about time management between joining a club and homework??

3 - Is orientation important?

After reading the story, do you think the orientation was helpful to the student or not? What might help the student in the story through his journey in high school??

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write and post a 500 word essay on two positive and one negative thing the student as experienced in high school and your opinion on each. Please make sure to provide specific examples for each from the text.?

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