



A Lesson on My Summer by GinaMarie Tilli

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 30 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Reading, Vocabulary, Discussion, Writing, Summer

Lesson Description: The goal of this lesson is to have students practice their reading, writing and vocabulary skills. They must read the short story, "My Summer." Answer the four vocabulary questions that are worth a total of forty points, respond to the discussion posts that are worth a total of twenty-five points and then finally complete the writing assignment that is worth thirty-five points.

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

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.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.3.6: Distinguish their own point of view from that of the author of a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1a: Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.1b: Provide reasons that support the opinion.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.3.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1a: Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.1d: Explain their own ideas and understanding in light of the discussion.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.3.6: Speak in complete sentences when appropriate to task and situation in order to provide requested detail or clarification. (See grade 3 Language standards 1 and 3 here for specific expectations.)

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on grade 3 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.4a: Use sentence-level context as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships and nuances in word meanings.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.6: Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate conversational, general academic, and domain-specific words and phrases, including those that signal spatial and temporal relationships (e.g., After dinner that night we went looking for them).

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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.

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:** 2

Question: "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: Country
- B: Temperature
- C: City
- D: Mountain

Question: Which sentence below correctly uses the term "climate"?

- A: Chicago's climate had 35,000 people.
 - B: China's climate was approximately 900,000 square feet.
 - C: South Florida has a tropical climate.
 - D: The climate in New Hampshire was 70 inches.
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Q: 2 WordPhrase: Get Used To **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in our story states "It took a few weeks, but I got used to the heat." Which is the best choice to describe "got used to"?

- A: gave up
- B: attacked
- C: take advantage
- D: adjusted

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the phrase "get used to" correctly?

- A: My baby brothers diaper gets used to replace the toilet.
 - B: I get used by my friends to drive them everywhere.
 - C: I will never get used to the cold.
 - D: My washing machine gets used to wash my roommates clothes.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: Degrees **WordPhraseTier:** 3

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

- A: Unit of measurement
- B: Certificate
- C: Accomplishment
- D: Acres

Question: Which sentence below correctly uses the term "degrees"

- A: The lawyer had four degrees in education.
 - B: It was 75 degrees outside and the sun was shining.
 - C: The karate instructor had three degrees on his black belt.
 - D: It will take me five years to earn two more education degrees.
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Q: 4 WordPhrase: Surprised **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: This sentence from the story says "I was so surprised because it felt like being in a heater." What does the word "surprised" mean stated in this sentence?

- A: Insane
- B: Depressed
- C: State of amazement
- D: Stressed

Question: Which one of the sentences below uses the word "surprised" correctly?

- A: After my boyfriend of five years dumped me, I was surprised for weeks.
 - B: Studying for my test had me so surprised that I was biting my nails.
 - C: My friend was so surprised that they had to put her in an insane asylum.
 - D: I was surprised when I found out I was pregnant.
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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 the grandmother move...?

Why does the grandmother in the story move out of Chicago? Where does the grandmother move to? Use details from the story to explain your answer.

2 - When the main character in the story landed..?

When the main character in the story landed in Phoenix, what was she initially feeling? Use clues from the story help you determine your answer.

3 - Describe what happened in the story..

Describe what happened in the story after the main character and her grandmother got off of the bus. Please use details and vocabulary from the text.?

4 - Why do you think...?

This discussion is mainly about what YOUR opinion is. Why do you think the main character was so hot when she got to Phoenix? Have you ever traveled on a plane to a different state? Would you want to travel to Phoenix? Why or why not.

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: Try to imagine that you have a relative that lives far away and you have to travel by plane every summer to see them. Write 250 words about how you would feel visiting a hot place after living in such a cold atmosphere, just like the main character in the story. Would you be excited or nervous?