



A Lesson on My Summer by Taylor Lents

Grade Level: Grade 3

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: Reading, writing, vocabulary, summer, airplane

Lesson Description: This lesson is designed to teach students reading and vocabulary comprehension as well as writing skills. Students will individually read the story to themselves and then the teacher will lead a class discussion of the story. After the discussion, students will individually complete the following questions.

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.RI.3.2: Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea.

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.W.3.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.

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

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.

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: The author in our story says "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: The weather conditions of a given area
- B: A state
- C: A location
- D: A season

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

- A: The weatherman said that the climate for today was going to be windy and rainy.
- B: Yesterday's climate was very cold and today's climate was hot.
- C: The climate in Florida is much hotter and more humid than the climate in Michigan.
- D: The climate in my house is much cooler than the climate outside.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Winter **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in our story says "My mother goes to visit her in winter." "I can't go because I have to be in school." What does the word "winter" mean in this sentence?

- A: The hot season of the year when school is not in session
- B: The cold season of the year when school is in session
- C: The season of the year where plants begin to bloom
- D: The season of the year where it is possible to go swimming

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

- A: Winter was John's favorite time of year because he could finally go outside without freezing to death.
- B: Lisa loved going outside during winter to pick flowers and vegetables from her garden.
- C: Maria loved the season of winter because she enjoyed wearing coats and playing in the snow.
- D: Josh liked that he was able to go swimming when winter began.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Pilot **WordPhraseTier:** 2

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

- A: A passenger
- B: A grandmother
- C: A worker
- D: A person in charge of flying a plane

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

- A: The pilot was the one who brought snacks and drinks to us on our flight.
- B: Henry dreamed of one day becoming a pilot and flying his own plane.
- C: Our pilot sat in the seat next to us on our flight.
- D: You only have to know how to drive a car to become a pilot.

Q: 4 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 in this sentence?

- A: a certificate earned in school
- B: the amount of time it takes to fly from one place to another
- C: the amount of time it takes for a plane to come to a stop after landing
- D: the temperature of an area based upon a certain scale

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

- A: Tonya measured the degrees of her paper.
- B: Sam liked to count the degrees on his ruler.
- C: Sarah began to sweat after being outside in temperatures that measured 90 degrees.
- D: Chris liked to time the degrees it took to get from his house to school.

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 - Visiting Grandma

Why was it important for the child in the story to visit the grandmother?

2 - Why the mother wants to be a part of the next visit.

The mother in the story says I miss her a lot. Next time I'll go with you. Why is it important for the mother to go with the child on the next visit to see the grandmother?

3 - Why the grandmother moved to a warmer climate.

The child in the story says that the grandmother went to her doctor and he said that she could not stay in such a cold climate. Why do you think that the doctor told the grandmother that she had to move to a warmer climate?
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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: You are to write a two paragraph essay describing a time when you went on a trip to a different place for either a vacation or to visit family members or friends. Explain how your trip was affected by the people present on this trip. Relate your experience to that of the child's in the story and describe the importance of maintaining close relationships to others even if they are far away.

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