



## A Lesson on The Train Ride by Tiffany Lyp

**Grade Level:** Grade 5

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts

**Lesson Length:** 1 hour 30 minutes

**Lesson Keywords:** grade 5, reading, writing, literacy, vocabulary, train, ride, story, mother and child, experience, lesson, learn, history

**Lesson Description:** In this lesson we will be reading a story called "A Lesson on The Train Ride" where a young boy goes on a train ride with his mother. Students will be tested on the story's vocabulary by answering questions relating to words taken from the story. In addition students will be partaking in a class discussion with their peers by answering questions related to the story and then they will write in a essay format to answer questions about the story individually. The goal of this lesson is to see if the students can use their vocabulary, writing, and reading skills to understand more of the lesson Tee learns when on the train ride with his mother and about the experience that the character, Tee, has on the train ride.

### Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.5.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative language such as metaphors and similes.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.5.4: Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 5 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.5.3: Know and apply grade-level phonics and word analysis skills in decoding words.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.1: Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.5.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.5.3: Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

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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.

### The Train Ride

by

**Content:** Hurry up, Tee, or we're going to miss it.?

My name is actually Terrence, but you'd never know it from listening to everyone?around me. The only person who ever called me by my proper name was my grandmother,?but since she's been gone, Tee is all I hear.?

Get out of the fridge. We don't have time, and you already finished the last of the?macaroni.?

Mom generally moves at 90 miles an hour, but she's really in overdrive this evening.?Since this whole thing began, she's been watching the news every night, clipping newspaper?articles, and talking about nothing but politics to anyone who'll sit still and listen for more?than a minute. Except for the times when she's chasing after me, I've never seen her so?energized. The way she's been talking about it all week long, you'd think that she was the one?delivering the acceptance speech tonight.?

If you're not ready in 30 seconds, I'm leaving you here, she yells from the front door.?But I know she wouldn't leave without me. You'll be grounded for a month of Sundays if?we're still on the train when he begins.?

The truth is that she managed to get me excited about the election, too. I'm not quite as?excited as she is. I don't think anybody is. But seeing someone who looks like me, a skinny?kid with big ears, become President of the United States, well, it makes me think anything is?possible. That thought is enough to get me to slam shut the refrigerator door, grab my?sweatshirt, and race down the hallway for the door.?

As we speed walk towards the station, I have to almost run to keep up with Mom. I?never saw her hurry like this.?

Finally, we're at the station, and I feel like we're really on our way now. When the train?pulls in, I can't believe my eyes. Each train car is packed full. There's standing room only, just?like rush hour. It seems like everyone is talking, and even the silent few are smiling. I've?never seen any of these people in my life, yet people are talking with me.?

The intercom crackles: 47th Street, 47th Street. No smoking or radio players. Next?stop 35th.?

I look over to my mom, who's lost in thought. I know she can't tell whether or not I?understand everything that's going on - that's been going on for these last 12 months. I don't?know if I do, but I feel a tingling inside that tells me I might.?

Harrison... Harrison. No smoking or radio players. Next stop, Jackson. Thats Grant?Park. Everyone cheersit is so exciting.?

I feel my heartbeat quicken as I realize that, for once in my life, I won't be reading about?the big things that make it into history books. I'll be watching it unfold in front of my eyes.?

I look over at my mom and catch her looking at me, nodding. We've arrived.

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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:** crackles **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** The author in the story says, "The intercom crackles: "47th Street, 47th Street. No smoking or radio players. Next stop 35th."" What does crackles means in this sentence and according to the text?

- A: silent whisper
- B: crunching or hissing sound
- C: loud cheer noise
- D: horn sound

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

- A: While walking at the beach, the sand crackles on top of my feet.
- B: As the sun came through the clouds the rays crackled as it met the Earth.
- C: In the morning when I pour milk on my Rice Krispies cereal I hear a crackle sound.
- D: The students were running on the metal bleachers and you can hear them crackling in the distance

**Q: 2 WordPhrase:** election **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** The author in our story says, "The truth is that she managed to get me excited about the election, too." What does the word "election" mean in this sentence and according to the text?

- A: a vote to select the winner for a position or political office
- B: competition trophy
- C: school play
- D: new technology gadget

**Question:** Which of the following sentences below uses the word "election" correctly?

- A: My mother thinks election ballots grow on trees.
- B: The art museum is holding an election to raffle off art pieces.
- C: By winning the boat race I won the election.
- D: In school there was an election held for class president.

**Q: 3 WordPhrase:** clipping **WordPhraseTier:** 2

**Question:** The author of the story says, "Since this whole thing began, she's been watching the news every night, clipping newspaper articles, and talking about nothing..." What does the word "clipping" mean in this sentence and according to the text?

- A: taping together
- B: reading
- C: cutting
- D: throw out

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

- A: I wanted a snack so I clipped yogurt.
- B: When I score the winning point, my coach clipped me on my back.
- C: I was writing my essay but it didn't turn out good so I clipped it and started a new draft.
- D: The dog groomers clipped my dog's fur too short.

**Q: 4 WordPhrase:** politics **WordPhraseTier:** 3

**Question:** The author of the story says, "Since this whole thing began, she's been watching the news every night, clipping newspaper articles, and talking about nothing but politics to anyone who'll sit still and listen for more than a minute." What does the word "politics" mean in this sentence and according to the text?

- A: activities that relate to influencing the actions and policies of a government or getting and keeping power in a government
- B: movie review
- C: car quote
- D: cold setting on the dish washer.

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

- A: I can't believe the politics that the movie Frozen received.

**B:** The dealer gave me a politic which helped me make my decision to not get the brand new car.

**C:** You can see a lot of politics on the news cast or in the newspaper.

**D:** Politics lit up the sky on the Fourth of July.

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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 - Different Names?

According to the text from the story: My name is actually Terrence, but you'd never know it from listening to everyone around me. The only person who ever called me by my proper name was my grandmother, but since she's been gone, Tee is all I hear.

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Have you ever had someone call you a different name depending on the situation? If so, how did it make you feel. Please explain the importance behind your name (are you named after someone important or a family member)?

### 2 - Are you ready yet?

According to the text from the story: If you're not ready in 30 seconds, I'm leaving you here, she yells from the front door. But I know she wouldn't leave without me. You'll be grounded for a month of Sundays if we're still on the train when he begins.

Has a family member ever been in a rush before and it was taking you longer to get ready than they wanted (like they were rushing you to get ready faster)? How did it make you feel to be rushed? Where were you going? What was the outcome did you end up getting there on time or were you late?

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### 3 - Train Ride Experience

Have you ever been on a train? If so, where were you going to and what was your experience like? If you have not been on a train yet, what do you think it would be like to ride on a train?

Make sure you are specific and give details when describing your train ride experience or what you think riding a train would be like.

### 4 - Walking Through A Big Crowd

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According to the text from the story: Finally, we're at the station, and I feel like we're really on our way now. When the train pulls in, I can't believe my eyes. Each train car is packed full. There's standing room only, just like rush hour. It seems like everyone is talking, and even the silent few are smiling. I've never seen any of these people in my life, yet people are talking with me.

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Have you ever had to go through a big crowd before? What sounds did you hear? What did you see? How did you overcome this challenge? What were you thinking when trying to get through the crowd? Who helped you get through the crowd? Where were you trying to go to?

### 5 - Rush Hour

According to the text from the story: Each train car is packed full. There's standing room only, just like rush hour.

What is rush hour? Have you ever been somewhere where it was rush hour? Where were you at? What did you notice of people during the rush hour time period like what were they doing and saying? If you haven't experienced rush hour yet then what do you think it is like?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

**Instructions:** You are to write and post here 250-500 words essay on a moment when you had a chance to visit or watch some type of significance of history (president election, grand opening of a new building, watching a sport championship, etc). Please describe how it made you feel, how many people were there and what is the significance to this event? Do you relate to the character in the story?? Submit your assignment using the box below.

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