



A Lesson on Egypt by Thea Staton

Grade Level: Grade 4

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 2 hours

Lesson Keywords: Reading/Writing, and Vocabulary

Lesson Description: Purpose of this lesson is to teach the students to read literature and learn about Egypt. Students will have to think outside the box and use their critical thinking skills and comprehensive skills as well. This will help with their writing skills and use information from the short story.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology (e.g., Herculean).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.10: By the end of the year, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poetry, in the grades 4-5 text complexity band proficiently, with scaffolding as needed at the high end of the range.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RF.4.4: Read with sufficient accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.4.9: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.4.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 4 topics and texts, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

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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.

Egypt by

Content: Egypt is a country in Africa. It is at the north part of the continent. The north side of Egypt borders the Mediterranean. East of it is the Red Sea, Sudan to the south and Libya to the west. Other countries are on its other sides. It is in a very special location. It is a place that is close to Asia.

The capital of Egypt is Cairo. That is a really great city. It has been an important city for a long time. It is the largest city in Africa. If you visit that city, you will find a very modern place. You will see many cars. You will see many businesses, schools, and homes.

About 82 million people live in Egypt. They have a rich history. Long ago, Egyptians made this the greatest place in the world. They built pyramids. These very smart people invented ways to farm.

Long ago, Egyptians were wonderful leaders. They built great buildings. They set up schools. They invented a special way of writing. That was called hieroglyphics. They looked like pictures instead of alphabet letters.

You will still see hieroglyphics in Egypt today. But they are not used to read and write. They are a part of history. Egypt has a long history. It has been a leader for a long time. If you read Egypt's history, you will know how great this country has been.

Today most Egyptians live near the banks of the Nile River. This is where the only good land to farm is. It's a great place to live. There are other parts that are difficult to live in; they are deserts. So not many people live there.

About half of Egypt's residents live in cities. Those big cities are in the area of the Nile River. If you go to Cairo, the biggest city, you will find millions of people.

Egypt has had some problems. There have been wars. There have been problems of poverty. Poor people in the cities need jobs. They need homes. Egypt is working to solve those problems.

Egypt is making its schools better. The school leaders are making plans to help students learn more. They are planning ways to help parents help their children learn more, too.

Egypt is a great country. It has a wonderful history. It will have a great future because people are working hard. They are working together to get more jobs and homes.

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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: Rich **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: Author uses the sentence "They have a rich history", what does the word rich mean?

- A: poor
- B: abundant
- C: less
- D: lacking

Question: Which of the following sentence below use the word "rich" correctly?

- A: If you want to be rich your must sleep/
 - B: He was too rich to eat.
 - C: The nation has a very rich history.
 - D: I was too rich to pay my bills.
- =====

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Hieroglyphic **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: In the sentence "You will still see hieroglyphics in Egypt today" what does the word hieroglyphic mean?

- A: Pictures/symbols
- B: Letters/symbols
- C: Pictures/number
- D: Numbers/Letters

Question: Which sentence below used hieroglyphics properly?

- A: The games were hieroglyphic.
 - B: That symbol on the wall is hieroglyphic.
 - C: We had a hieroglyphic day.
 - D: That girl looked hieroglyphic.
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Q: 3 WordPhrase: Banks **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The following sentence "Today most Egyptians live near the banks of the Nile River. What does the word bank mean in the sentence?

- A: Save
- B: Spend
- C: Middle
- D: Border

Question: Which on of the sentences below uses the word "bank" correctly?

- A: We had to withdrawal from the bank.
 - B: The bank closed down.
 - C: Egyptians live near the banks of the Nile River.
 - D: How do i open up a bank?
- =====

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Poverty **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: What does the word poverty mean in the this sentence "There have been problems of poverty."

- A: Rich
- B: Wealthy
- C: Poor
- D: Abundance

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

- A: Most of the population live in poverty.
 - B: She made a poverty pot in class today.
 - C: To be wealthy, means to live poverty.
 - D: You work less to live in poverty.
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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 and two peer responses for each topic.

1 - Description of Egypt.

What do you think Egypt looks like?

2 - Where..

Where would you like to visit and why?

3 - Why

Why do you think the author said Egypt is a great place?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: Write a two paragraph four to five sentences each on why, you would or would not want to visit Egypt? They give you examples in the short story, but also provide your own ideas, provide specific examples.?

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