



A Lesson on A Good Student by Jessica Sorensen

Grade Level: Grade 7

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 45 minutes

Lesson Keywords: compare and contrast, reading, writing

Lesson Description: The goal of this lesson is to give students the opportunity to use what they have read in "A Good Student" to compare to their own lives. By the readings, the students should learn new vocabulary and have a better understanding of what they mean. The students will be given the chance to use the proper grammar and spelling that they have been learning in class. The lesson gives the students a chance to think and clearly develop their ideas.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.2b: Spell correctly.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.4: Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 7 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.7.4a: Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence or paragraph; a word's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

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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.

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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: orientation **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "I was extremely glad I had been to the freshman orientation." What does the word "orientation" mean in this sentence?

A: Getting to know someone

B: a program of introduction to new students for school or other institution

C: someone's interest

D: determination

Question: Which one of these sentences uses the word "orientation" correctly?

A: They had to change their orientation to get to their teachers classroom.

B: I had to go to orientation for college today.

C: It does not matter your orientation, it only matters who you are as a person.

D: Those art projects were in different orientations.

Q: 2 WordPhrase: tremendously **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "The high school was tremendously large,..." What does the word "tremendously" mean in this sentence?

A: vary great in amount

B: small

C: hurried

D: scared

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

A: He was tremendously when the guy was yelling at him.

B: He was only five feet tall, but compared to the almost seven foot man, he felt very tremendously.

C: The teddy bear he got her was so tremendously big, that she could not fit it in her car.

D: The house was finally finished and the homeowners agreed that the crew did a tremendously job.

Q: 3 WordPhrase: grammar **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: "...and that we will focus on grammar later." What does the word grammar mean in this sentence?

A: words

B: phrases

C: definition

D: the system and structure of language

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

A: Grammar is important when it comes to writing, talking, or anything really.

B: Grammar is part of the basic elements in science.

C: It takes a bunch of skill, to be able to do grammar.

D: Someone actually named their child Grammar.

Q: 4 WordPhrase: portrait **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: "The teacher showed us how to create portraits." What does the word "portraits" mean in this sentence?

A: landscape

B: a piece of paper

C: a drawing, photograph, or painting of a person

D: hard

Question: Which one of the sentence below uses the word "portrait" correctly?

A: The portrait of where the house was going to be built, was huge.

B: Portrait means how you see someone.

C: I did several portraits of my best friend and turned it in for my art project.

D: I want to make sure someone portraits me as a good person

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. Use grammar and spelling correctly.

1 - What grade was the student in?

What grade was the student in? Did he have a good day? If not, why?

2 - What is the one skill the student needs to know?

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. What are the two skills he needs to know? Do you think those skills are important? Why or why not?

3 - Do you think he is a good student?

Do you think he is a good student? Why or why not?

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: For your writing assignment, you are to describe your first day of school. How was it? In a couple sentences, compare and contrast, your first day of school, to the students first day of school. Tell how they were different and how they were the same (minimum of 300 words). Make sure to check for spelling and grammar.

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