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A Lesson on A Good Student

by Jeanne Ley

Grade Level: Grade 6

Subject Area: English Language Arts

Lesson Length: 1 hour 30 minutes

Lesson Keywords: Reading Comprehension, Writing Skills, Fiction

Lesson Description: In this activity, students will be asked to read a short passage and answer a three part questionnaire. Students will have to comprehend the passage and answer questions about vocabulary as well as questions about the content of what they read. By reading this passage, students will take a closer look at a fiction piece and be able to answer questions about what they have read.

Common Core Standards Covered with This Lesson

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.6.1: Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.1: Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.8: Trace and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, distinguishing claims that are supported by reasons and evidence from claims that are not.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.3: Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, relevant descriptive details, and well-structured event sequences.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.3d: Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to convey experiences and events.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.1c: Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in pronoun number and person.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.3: Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.4a: 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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CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.4d: Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).

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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.

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: Tardy **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in our story says "Once you are tardy three times you must serve detention". Reading the text, what do you think the word tardy means?

- A: Late
- B: On time
- C: To get in trouble
- D: Absent

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

- A: I got in tardy in Gym today.
- B: My mom said I could be tardy and miss school tomorrow.
- C: My friend was tardy and we missed part of the movie.
- D: I was tardy to work today and my boss was pleased!

Q: 2 WordPhrase: Tremendously **WordPhraseTier:** 2

Question: The authors says the phrase "\"The high school was tremendously large!\"". From the text, what do you think the word "\"tremendously\"" means?

- A: Very small
- B: Very large
- C: Average sized
- D: Large

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

- A: Are you going to the party tremendously?
- B: My cat is tremendously white.
- C: My parents bought a new house and it is tremendously big!
- D: Tremendously, where is Michael?

Q: 3 WordPhrase: Portrait **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The main character states in the passage that "the teacher showed us how to make portraits" during art class. What does the term "portrait" mean in the text?

- A: The paintbrush and paint
- B: A photograph of an animal
- C: Math problems
- D: A drawing/painting of a person

Question: Which sentence uses the word "portrait" correctly?

- A: I went to the museum and saw a beautiful portrait of Elizabeth the First.
- B: In math class we looked at various portraits of problems.
- C: Did you take a good portrait of my bike?
- D: Can you hand me the portrait in the sink?

Q: 4 WordPhrase: Orientation **WordPhraseTier:** 3

Question: The author in the story quotes "\"The school was tremendously large, so the orientation helped me immensely\"". What does the word orientation mean from this sentence?

- A: Your house
- B: The schools gym
- C: The last day of something
- D: The introduction to something new

Question: Which of the following sentences used the word "\"orientation\"" correctly?

- A: Mom, I have a test in orientation tomorrow!
- B: Today I start orientation for my new job.
- C: That orientation movie was fun!
- D: I am leaving orientation early.

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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 is the main character a "good student"?

Why do you think the author classified the main character as a good student??

2 - Thinking back

Thinking back to the passage, what problem does the main character face in the second paragraph? What are some ideas that can help him solve this problem??

3 - What perspective is the passage?

What perspective is the passage written from? In other words, is it first person, second person, or third party? Explain your answer with examples.?

4 - Activities and Clubs

What are some clubs/activities that the main character is wanting to join or try out for? Be specific

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Task 3: Writing Activity

Instructions: Reread the passage above. Now I want you to write a narrative, in 550 words or more, of what makes you a good student. Be sure to include things such as activities you want to participate in, grades you want to achieve, friend circle, etc. This activity should be about you!

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