LESSON PLAN

A Racial Parallel

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on what students think hypocrisy means. Ask them to share any recent examples they've witnessed or heard about in the news.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "A Racial Parallel" aloud or have students read in pairs. After reading, ask students to summarize the story in their own words to ensure comprehension.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Split the class into small groups. Assign each group a key character to discuss. Have them consider the character's motivations and the implications of their actions. Groups will then share their insights with the class.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a brief reflection on a time they witnessed or experienced intolerance. How did it make them feel? How might they have responded differently?

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect the reflection papers for evaluation. Provide feedback based on clarity of expression and depth of thought regarding the moral of the story.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: "A Racial Parallel" - The story illustrates the hypocrisy of intolerance, revealing how those who condemn others for their beliefs often mirror the very same prejudices they oppose.
- **Plot Summary**: In a small American town, a group of White Christians seeks to drive out Chinese immigrants, whom they label as 'heathens'. When they force a Chinese victim to translate an editorial from a Peking newspaper, they discover a similar call to action against foreign devils. This revelation highlights the cycle of hatred and intolerance in both communities.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **White Christians**: Represents the intolerant group, embodying the prejudices of their time.
  - **Chinese Immigrant**: The victim of intolerance, providing a voice to the oppressed and showcasing the impact of hatred.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the concept of hypocrisy in social attitudes.
  - Students will analyze how intolerance manifests in different cultures.
  - Students will identify parallels between historical and contemporary issues of racism.
  - Students will articulate their thoughts on the moral of the story and its relevance today.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What are some examples of hypocrisy related to intolerance that you see in today's society?
  2. How does the story reflect the idea that prejudice can exist in any community?
  3. In what ways can we work to break the cycle of intolerance in our own lives?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "A Racial Parallel"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Projector (if needed for multimedia resources)
  - Paper and pens for student notes

✓ Original text available on the story page.