LESSON PLAN

A Statesman

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	2

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on what makes someone valuable in society. Ask students to share examples of people they consider valuable and why.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "A Statesman" aloud as a class. After reading, discuss the plot, characters, and setting, focusing on the Statesman’s role and the aged member's perspective.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups to analyze the story's moral. Each group will identify how the Statesman exemplifies the story’s theme of interconnectedness and value. Groups will present their findings.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a brief reflection on how they can see individuals as valuable assets in their own lives or communities. Use sticky notes to share thoughts anonymously on a class board.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick quiz or an exit ticket where students answer one question about the story's moral and provide an example from their lives.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: A Statesman; The moral of the story is that individuals can be viewed as valuable assets in any context, highlighting the interconnectedness of society and commerce.
- **Plot Summary**: In a meeting of a Chamber of Commerce, a Statesman attempts to address the assembly but faces objection due to his lack of direct involvement in commerce. An aged member counters this objection by asserting that the Statesman is indeed a vital "commodity," emphasizing the value of individuals in the broader context of society and economics.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Statesman**: Represents the potential value of individuals beyond their immediate roles in commerce.
  - **The Aged Member**: Serves as the voice of wisdom, reinforcing the idea that everyone contributes to society's fabric, regardless of their profession.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the importance of every individual's role in society.
  - Students will explore the concept of value beyond traditional definitions of commerce.
  - Students will discuss how interconnectedness affects community dynamics.
  - Students will analyze the moral implications of viewing individuals as commodities.
  - Students will relate the story to other quick read stories with moral lessons.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What qualities make a person a "commodity" in the context of society?
  2. How does this story relate to animal stories with moral lessons, where every character has a role?
  3. In what ways do you think this story provides a meaningful life lesson about the value of individuals?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "A Statesman"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Sticky notes for reflections
  - Projector for visual aids (optional)

✓ Original text available on the story page.