LESSON PLAN

The Circular Clew

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on the importance of critical thinking. Ask students if they have ever followed a misleading lead and what the outcome was.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Circular Clew" aloud as a class. Pause to ask comprehension questions and ensure students understand the plot and characters.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Have students write a short paragraph on how the moral of the story applies to a situation in their lives or a current event, emphasizing lessons learned about critical thinking.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Collect the paragraphs and assess them based on clarity of thought, connection to the moral, and depth of analysis.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Circular Clew; The pursuit of truth can sometimes lead to misdirection and trivial conclusions, highlighting the importance of critical thinking over blind following.
- **Plot summary**: A Detective, in search of a murderer, follows a whimsical Clew for a year, only to discover a trivial fact that the deceased is indeed dead. This journey illustrates the futility of blindly following leads without critical thinking.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **The Detective**: Represents the quest for truth and justice, demonstrating the challenges faced in the pursuit of meaningful answers.
  - **The Clew**: Symbolizes misleading information and distractions that can lead one away from the actual truth.
  - **The Ingenious Theory**: Represents ungrounded assumptions and theories that can divert focus from the core issue.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will identify key themes in the story.
  - Students will analyze character motivations and their implications.
  - Students will discuss the importance of critical thinking in the pursuit of truth.
  - Students will connect the story's moral to real-life scenarios and decision-making processes.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the Clew represent in terms of the challenges we face when searching for truth?
  2. How could the Detective's experience have been different with a more critical approach?
  3. Can you think of a situation in your life where you followed a misleading lead? What did you learn?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Circular Clew"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Discussion prompts printed out
  - Paper and pens for note-taking

✓ Original text available on the story page.