LESSON PLAN

The Dutiful Son

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

- Begin with a brief discussion on what family means to students. Ask them to share examples of when they felt loved by their family and times when they felt their family acted out of obligation.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

- Read "The Dutiful Son" aloud to the class.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Break students into small groups to discuss the motivations of the Millionaire and the Father. Each group will present their findings to the class, focusing on how these motivations shape the story's moral.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Have students write a short paragraph reflecting on a personal experience related to family duty and love. Encourage them to relate their experiences to the story's moral.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

- Conclude with a class discussion where students share their reflections. Assess their understanding through participation and the depth of their insights.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Dutiful Son; The importance of genuine familial love over selfish motives.
- **Plot Summary**: This story revolves around a wealthy son who visits his father at an almshouse. He justifies his visit by stating that if their roles were reversed, his father would visit him. However, his true motive is to obtain his father's signature for a life insurance policy, revealing a deeper commentary on the nature of duty and love in familial relationships.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Millionaire**: Represents those who may fulfill societal expectations of duty but are driven by self-interest.
  - **The Father**: Embodies the ideal of unconditional love and pride, contrasting with the son's motivations.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:

- Students will identify the moral themes presented in the story.
- Students will analyze character motivations and their implications on familial relationships.
- Students will discuss the difference between genuine love and duty driven by self-interest.
- Students will reflect on how this story compares to other uplifting moral stories they know.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story reveal about the nature of true familial duty?
  2. How can we differentiate between acts of love and acts of obligation that serve personal interests?
  3. In what ways does this story remind you of other entertaining moral stories or fables?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Dutiful Son"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for students

✓ Original text available on the story page.