LESSON PLAN

The Honest Citizen

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening hook

Start with a brief discussion about what integrity means. Ask students to share their thoughts or experiences where they had to stand by their values.

15–20 min

Story exploration

Read "The Honest Citizen" aloud. As a class, discuss the plot, key characters, and the moral of the story. Encourage students to think critically about the decisions made by the Truly Good Man.

15 min

Analysis exercises

In pairs, students will identify instances in the story that highlight the moral lesson. They will create a short list of actions that demonstrate integrity and compare them with actions that compromise one's values.

10 min

Application/reflection

Students will write a short paragraph reflecting on a time they faced a moral dilemma. Encourage them to connect their experiences with the story's moral.

5 min

Assessment strategy

Conduct a quick quiz with true/false statements regarding the story's key elements and moral lesson. This will help assess understanding of the material.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: The Honest Citizen - True integrity is demonstrated by refusing to compromise one's values, even when faced with enticing offers.
- **Plot summary**: In a state where political preferment is for sale, a Truly Good Man is approached with an offer. Upon discovering that the price is double what he is willing to pay, he refuses, earning the admiration of the people. His decision exemplifies the essence of honesty and integrity.
- **Key characters and their significance**:
  - **The Truly Good Man**: Represents integrity and moral strength, showing that true value lies in one's principles.
  - **The People**: Reflect the societal recognition of honesty and the collective admiration for those who uphold moral values.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning objectives**:
  - Students will identify the key themes of integrity and honesty in the story.
  - Students will analyze the choices made by the characters and their consequences.
  - Students will discuss the relevance of the story's moral to contemporary society.
  - Students will create a personal reflection on a situation where they had to make a moral choice.
- **Discussion questions**:
  1. What does the Truly Good Man's refusal to accept the offer tell us about his character?
  2. How do the actions of the People reflect societal values regarding honesty?
  3. Can you think of a modern-day situation where integrity is tested? How would you respond?
- **Required materials**:
  - Copies of "The Honest Citizen"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Notebooks for reflections and exercises

✓ Original text available on the story page.