LESSON PLAN

The Judge and the Rash Act

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	3

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a quick moral story about a well-known animal story with moral implications (e.g., "The Tortoise and the Hare"). Discuss what students believe the moral is and how it relates to making decisions.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read "The Judge and the Rash Act" aloud. Encourage students to pay attention to the judge's feelings and the symbolism of the Rash Act. After reading, ask for initial reactions to the story.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

In small groups, have students identify key elements of the story. Each group should discuss:

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a short reflection on a personal experience where they faced a difficult decision. Encourage them to consider what the consequences of inaction could have been.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conduct a quick exit ticket where students write down one lesson they learned from the story and

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STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Judge and the Rash Act; The moral highlights the dangers of inaction and the consequences of succumbing to despair, illustrating that one should not avoid making difficult decisions or taking responsibility.
- **Plot Summary**: The story follows a judge who feels despondent about his lack of recognition and success. In his moment of despair, he is confronted by a personification of a rash act, which symbolizes the dire consequences of inaction. The judge's refusal to act leads to a thought-provoking realization about the importance of making decisions.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Judge**: Represents individuals who struggle with indecision and the fear of making mistakes.
  - **The Rash Act**: Embodies the consequences of inaction, serving as a reminder that avoiding tough choices can lead to negative outcomes.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral implications of the story.
  - Students will analyze the character motivations and their significance.
  - Students will discuss the consequences of inaction in their own lives.
  - Students will connect the story to other thought-provoking moral stories and short tales with moral themes.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  - What does the character of the judge teach us about facing difficult decisions?
  - How does the personification of the Rash Act enhance the moral of the story?
  - Can you think of a situation where inaction led to negative consequences in your own experience?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of "The Judge and the Rash Act"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Notebooks for reflection

✓ Original text available on the story page.