LESSON PLAN

The Man and the Dog

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	3

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion about misunderstandings in daily life. Ask students if they've ever felt judged based on their actions, and what that experience was like.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story aloud. After reading, facilitate a discussion about the plot, characters, and the moral. Encourage students to share their initial reactions and thoughts.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups and assign each group a character (the man or the dog). Have them analyze their character's motivations and discuss how these motivations align with or contradict societal expectations.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Ask students to reflect on a personal experience where their intentions were misunderstood. How could they have communicated differently? Encourage volunteers to share their reflections.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Conclude the lesson with a quick write-up where students summarize the moral of the story and how it applies to their own lives. Collect these summaries for assessment.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title**: The Man and the Dog
- **Moral/Theme**: True intentions and motivations can be misunderstood; avoid acting out of a desire to conform to societal expectations.
- **Plot Summary**: In this very short moral story, a man who has been bitten by a dog learns that his wound can heal if he offers the dog a piece of bread dipped in his blood. However, the dog refuses, explaining that accepting the offering may lead others to think he had improper motives for biting the man. This interaction reveals deeper themes about intentions and societal perceptions.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **The Man**: Represents human vulnerability and the quest for understanding.

- **The Dog**: Symbolizes the complexity of intentions and the importance of staying true to one's nature.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral implications of the story and its relevance to personal growth.
  - Students will analyze the motivations of the characters and how they shape the narrative.
  - Students will discuss the societal perceptions that influence behavior.
  - Students will reflect on how misunderstandings can arise from intentions and actions.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the dog's refusal to accept the bread suggest about his character?
  2. How can this story apply to our own lives when dealing with misunderstandings?
  3. In what ways do societal expectations influence our actions and decisions?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story 'The Man and the Dog'
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for note-taking

✓ Original text available on the story page.