LESSON PLAN

The Poet and the Editor

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	4

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

- Begin with a quote about creativity and commercialism. Ask students to share their thoughts on the quote and how it relates to the story.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

- Read the story aloud as a class.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups to analyze the characters' motivations and the story's moral.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Ask students to reflect on their own experiences with creative work and discuss instances where they felt pressured to compromise their

integrity.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

- Conduct a quick exit ticket where students write down one key takeaway from the lesson.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Poet and the Editor - The tension between artistic integrity and commercial demands, emphasizing that true creativity cannot be reduced to mere substance.
- **Plot Summary**: In this story, a poet visits an editor to discuss his poem, only to find that most of it has been ruined by an ink spill. The editor, unable to read the poem, asks the poet to summarize it. The poet is frustrated, realizing that the editor wants to strip the work of its essence for commercial gain.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Poet**: Represents artistic integrity and the struggle of creatives against commercial pressures.
  - **The Editor**: Symbolizes the commercial world that often values substance over creativity.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral implications of the story.
  - Students will analyze the characters and their motivations.

- Students will discuss the conflict between artistic integrity and commercialism.
- Students will explore how real-life stories reflect similar moral dilemmas.

- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story suggest about the relationship between artists and editors or publishers?
  2. How might the themes in this story apply to real-life situations in creative professions?
  3. In what ways can we see this tension between substance and creativity in today's media?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Poet and the Editor"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper for notes

✓ Original text available on the story page.