LESSON PLAN

The Thief and the Honest Man

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
9+	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

Start with a brief discussion about what honesty means and ask students to share examples of when they valued honesty in their lives.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

Read the story aloud to the class. After reading, discuss the characters and plot, prompting students to visualize the scenes and share their interpretations.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups and provide them with character analysis worksheets.

10 min

Application/Reflection

Bring the class back together for a discussion. Ask students to reflect on how the moral of this story could apply to their own lives and the importance of integrity.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

Use an exit ticket where students write down one key takeaway from the lesson and how they can apply it moving forward.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Thief and the Honest Man; Moral: One cannot expect justice or accountability from those who are dishonest or indifferent to the plight of others.
- **Plot Summary**: In this moral story, a thief seeks justice against his accomplices for a share of stolen goods by calling upon an honest man to testify. The honest man, however, chooses to distance himself from the affair, ultimately revealing his own indifference and hypocrisy by picking his own pockets while avoiding the trial.
- **Key Characters and Their Significance**:
  - **The Thief**: Represents dishonesty and the futility of expecting fair treatment from those who lack integrity.
  - **The Honest Man**: Embodies the theme of hypocrisy; although he is deemed honest, his actions reveal a lack of true moral character.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will analyze the moral implications of the story.
  - Students will identify the character traits of the thief and the honest man.
  - Students will discuss the impact of indifference on justice.
  - Students will relate the themes of the story to real-life situations.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story suggest about the nature of honesty and accountability?
  2. How do the actions of the honest man contradict his title?
  3. In what ways can we see similar situations in our everyday lives?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Thief and the Honest Man"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Picture illustrations related to the story (optional)