LESSON PLAN

# The Two Men Who Were Enemies

| GRADES | TIME | READING LEVEL |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 5–8 | 50 min | 4 |

## Lesson flow




5 min

### Opening Hook

Begin with a brief discussion on personal conflicts. Ask students to share instances where they've seen animosity impact teamwork or collaboration, setting the stage for the story's themes.

15–20 min

### Story Exploration

Read the story aloud to the class. After reading, facilitate a discussion about the characters and their motivations. Encourage students to express their initial reactions to the characters' choices.

15 min

### Analysis Exercises

Divide students into small groups. Assign each group a specific aspect of the story to analyze (e.g., character motivations, themes, conflicts). Have them prepare a brief presentation of their findings to share with the class.

10 min

### Application/Reflection

Ask students to write a short reflection on a time when they had to choose between holding a grudge or working collaboratively. Encourage them to connect this experience to the moral of the story.

5 min

### Assessment Strategy

Conclude with a quick exit ticket where students write down one takeaway from the lesson and how it can apply to their lives.

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# STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and Moral/Theme**: The Two Men Who Were Enemies; Moral: Hatred can blind us to the greater dangers we face together, leading us to prioritize personal vendettas over survival.
- **Plot Summary**: Two men, bitter enemies, find themselves on the same ship during a violent storm. Instead of working together to ensure their survival, they remain focused on their animosity, revealing how hatred can cloud judgment even in life-threatening situations.
- **Key Characters**:
  - **Man in the Stern**: Represents the destructive nature of hatred and the willingness to prioritize personal vendettas.
  - **Man in the Prow**: Embodies the same hatred, illustrating the futility of their conflict in the face of greater danger.

# LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will analyze the themes of hatred and conflict in the story.
  - Students will discuss the implications of personal vendettas on group survival.
  - Students will reflect on how the characters' choices relate to real-life situations.
  - Students will evaluate the moral lesson and its relevance to their own lives.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What does the story suggest about the consequences of allowing hatred to dictate our actions?
  2. How might the outcome change if the two men had chosen to work together during the storm?
  3. Can you think of a real-life situation where animosity prevented people from achieving a common goal?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story "The Two Men Who Were Enemies"
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Paper and pens for note-taking and reflections

✓ Original text available on the story page.