

UNIT OVERVIEW

Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator Novel Study

OVERVIEW

This novel study provides teachers with a highly structured format for teaching language arts as students develop a love for reading longer materials like novels. Various areas such as reading comprehension, vocabulary development, spelling, grammar and writing are all entwined in this integrated approach eliminating the need for teaching these skills separately. Activities are divided into three main sections:

1) Chapter Questions

For each chapter, students answer a thorough set of questions requiring answers in complete sentences. Reading comprehension is key as students must read and understand the *entire* book in order to answer the questions. (One major strength of the novel study approach is that students *must understand* the novel or they will be unable to do the required assignments.)

2)Vocabulary and Language

Each chapter also includes activities dealing with such things as word meanings, use of the dictionary, spelling, parts of speech, antonyms/synonyms, syllables, punctuation and grammar.

3)Writing and Creativity

In this section, students apply what they have learned about language and grammar skills to write more effectively. Creative writing is the focus of this less-structured segment allowing teachers more opportunity to incorporate their own ideas into developing creative writing skills.

READING STRATEGIES

A variety of reading approaches seems to work best. One proven method is for the teacher to read the book out loud to the entire class the first time through stopping after a chapter or two. In answering the questions, students will essentially be required to reread the chapter on their own. Not only does this “out loud” method insure that students are read to daily, but it also helps all students to understand the book regardless of reading level.

Having students read sections silently by themselves, out loud with partners or in small groups are all possible variations that will help keep student interest high.

*****Note*****

One way to gain a measure of the effectiveness of the novel study and to gauge student interest is to instruct students *not* to read ahead on their own. Basic reverse psychology dictates that students will invariably be slouching down into their desks to sneak in a chapter while the teacher knowingly turns a blind eye.

ASSIGNMENTS

With the assignments, teachers can photocopy entire booklets for each student or only the portions that the teacher wishes to use. One possible method of reducing this large amount of photocopying is to have students write down chapter questions and answers in their notebooks.

Teachers are free to pick and choose assignments as they see fit as well as adding in any in optional lessons they develop. (The main difficulty with this is that it alters the marking totals)

CHAPTERS 6 – 10

Questions

A. Answer each question with a complete question.

1. Why do you think the President is inviting the “mystery visitors” to the Whitehouse on earth? _____

2. Why does Mr. Wonka answer the President with a poem? _____

3. List as many characteristics as you can which describe the strange creatures that came from the elevators. Try for (6). _____

4. How did Charlie, Mr. Wonka and the rest of the “mystery visitors” escape from the creatures? _____

5. List all the words the author uses to talk about the “place” where the big black and blue bump occurred on the Knid. _____

6. Be Creative! Suppose the Knid had been injured on its nose. List all the different words you can find for the word nose. _____

7. The Knid is not a popular creature in Mr. Wonka’s opinion. List four words he uses to describe it.

8. Where does the Knid live? _____

CHAPTERS 16 – 20

Language and Vocabulary

B. **Antonyms:** An antonym is a word that is the opposite to a given word.

Example: full – empty, best – worst

Below are ten underlined words within textual word phrases found in “**Charlie and the Great Glass Elevator**.” Find the correct antonym for each underlined word from the Antonym Word Bank. Place the proper antonym on the blank after each word phrase.

ANTONYM WORD BANK

lucky
tense
landed

naked
blatantly
uneven

pleasing
incomplete
frivolously

ruddy
tiny
worthless

1....solemnly swear...

2....upon the entire company...

3....finger delicately upon...

4....face looked calm, you can...

5....a fearsome sight...

6....dreadful fate...

7....my most valuable...

8....just launched the finest...

9....simply colossal speed...

10....her body swathed in a...

CHAPTERS 16 – 20

Writing and Creativity

A. A.B.C. Poetry: Write a poem using one letter of the alphabet to highlight sounds and words that begin with that letter.

Examples: Let us select the letter “P” and the letter “T”.

The letter “P” is:

Pretty pie,
Puppies
Ping pong
Piggety Peter
Plump people
P, p, pp,
The letter “P” is perfect.

It’s hard to make the letter “T”
sound anything but trouble:

It tugs,
Twists,
Turns,
Tickles the Top,
Ties the tires,
Taps the tiles.

SAMPLE

