

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts  
**Unit Title:** Developing Reading Comprehension and Writing Skills  
**Grade Level:** 6-8  
**Lesson Number:** 1 of 10

**Duration:** 60 minutes  
**Date:** March 10, 2023  
**Teacher:** Ms. Johnson  
**Room:** 205

## Curriculum Standards Alignment

### Content Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.6.1: Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.6.2: Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic, using relevant and credible sources.

### Skills Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.6.1: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions to build on others' ideas and express their own clearly.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.6.1: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

### Cross-Curricular Links:

- Science: Students will apply scientific concepts to real-world scenarios through reading and writing activities.
- Math: Students will use mathematical concepts to analyze and interpret data in texts.

## Essential Questions & Big Ideas

### Essential Questions:

- How can I use reading comprehension strategies to improve my understanding of complex texts?
- How can I use writing to communicate my ideas and perspectives effectively?

### Enduring Understandings:

- Reading comprehension is a critical skill for academic success.
- Writing is a powerful tool for communication and self-expression.

## Student Context Analysis

**Class Profile:**

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

**Learning Styles Distribution:**

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%

## Pre-Lesson Preparation

### Room Setup:

- Arrange desks in a U-shape to facilitate group discussion.
- Set up a projector and screen for presentations.

### Technology Needs:

- Computers or laptops with internet access.
- Projector and screen.

### Materials Preparation:

- Copy of the lesson plan and materials for each student.
- Whiteboard markers and eraser.

### Safety Considerations:

- Ensure that all students have a safe and comfortable working environment.
- Be aware of any allergies or medical conditions that may affect student participation.

## Detailed Lesson Flow

### Pre-Class Setup (15 mins before)

- Set up the room and technology.
- Prepare materials and handouts.

### Bell Work / Entry Task (5-7 mins)

- Have students complete a reading comprehension exercise.
- Review the answers as a class.

### Opening/Hook (10 mins)

- Introduce the topic of reading comprehension and writing skills.
- Provide a hook to grab students' attention.

### Engagement Strategies:

- Think-pair-share.
- Group discussion.

### Direct Instruction (20-25 mins)

- Provide explicit instruction on reading comprehension strategies.
- Use visual aids and graphic organizers to support ELL/ESL students.

### Checking for Understanding:

- Formative assessments.
- Exit tickets.

### **Guided Practice (25-30 mins)**

- Provide guided practice activities.
- Circulate around the room to provide support and feedback.

#### **Scaffolding Strategies:**

- Graphic organizers.
- Sentence frames.

### **Independent Practice (20-25 mins)**

- Provide independent application activities.
- Allow students to work independently and apply the reading comprehension and writing skills learned in the lesson.

### **Closure (10 mins)**

- Summarize the key points of the lesson.
- Ask students to reflect on what they learned.

## Differentiation & Support Strategies

### For Struggling Learners:

- Provide one-on-one support and feedback.
- Use visual aids and graphic organizers to support understanding.

### For Advanced Learners:

- Provide additional challenges and extensions.
- Encourage independent research and projects.

### ELL Support Strategies:

- Use visual aids and graphic organizers to support understanding.
- Provide sentence frames and writing templates.

### Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Encourage self-awareness and self-regulation.
- Model and teach empathy and respect for others.

## Assessment & Feedback Plan

### Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Quizzes and tests.
- Class discussions and participation.

### Success Criteria:

- Students will be able to identify main ideas and supporting details in a text.
- Students will be able to write a clear and concise paragraph in response to a prompt.

### Feedback Methods:

- Verbal feedback.
- Written feedback.

## Homework & Extension Activities

### Homework Assignment:

Read and annotate a selected text, and complete a graphic organizer to identify main ideas and supporting details.

### Extension Activities:

- Research and write a short essay on a topic related to the lesson.
- Create a visual project, such as an infographic or comic strip, to illustrate the main ideas and supporting details of a text.

### Parent/Guardian Connection:

Encourage parents/guardians to ask their child about the lesson and what they learned, and to provide feedback and support at home.

## Teacher Reflection Space

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### Pre-Lesson Reflection:

- What challenges do I anticipate?
- Which students might need extra support?
- What backup plans should I have ready?

### Post-Lesson Reflection:

- What went well?
- What would I change?
- Next steps for instruction?

## Introduction and Hook (5 minutes)

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**Introduction:**

Introduce the topic of reading comprehension and writing skills, and provide a hook to grab students' attention.

**Hook:**

Ask students to share a time when they had to read and understand a complex text, and how they felt about it.

## Teaching Tips:

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**Teaching Tips:**

- Use a visual aid, such as a diagram or chart, to illustrate the importance of reading comprehension and writing skills.
- Ask students to share their own experiences with reading and writing.
- Provide a clear and concise overview of the lesson objectives and activities.

### Explicit Instruction (10 minutes)

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**Explicit Instruction:**

Provide explicit instruction on reading comprehension strategies, such as identifying main ideas and supporting details, making inferences, and summarizing texts.

**Visual Aids:**

Use visual aids, such as graphic organizers and sentence frames, to support ELL/ESL students.

### Teaching Tips:

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**Teaching Tips:**

- Use a graphic organizer to illustrate the relationships between main ideas and supporting details.
- Provide sentence frames to support ELL/ESL students in constructing sentences.
- Model how to use the strategies with a sample text, and provide feedback and guidance as needed.



### Guided Practice (15 minutes)

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**Guided Practice:**

Provide guided practice activities, such as reading a text and completing a graphic organizer to identify main ideas and supporting details.

**Circulation:**

Circulate around the room to provide support and feedback to students.

### Teaching Tips:

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**Teaching Tips:**

- Use a variety of texts and graphic organizers to cater to different learning styles and needs.
- Provide one-on-one support and feedback to students as needed.
- Encourage students to work in pairs or small groups to promote peer-to-peer learning and support.

### Independent Application (15 minutes)

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**Independent Application:**

Provide independent application activities, such as writing a short essay in response to a prompt.

**Feedback:**

Provide feedback and guidance as needed, and encourage students to revise and edit their work.

### Teaching Tips:

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**Teaching Tips:**

- Provide a clear and concise prompt and guidelines for the writing assignment.
- Allow students to choose from a variety of topics or prompts to cater to different interests and learning styles.
- Provide feedback and guidance as needed, and encourage students to revise and edit their work.

### Sharing and Feedback (10 minutes)

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**Sharing and Feedback:**

Allow students to share their writing with a partner or in a small group, and encourage students to provide constructive feedback and support one another in their learning.

**Feedback Rubric:**

Use a feedback rubric to guide students' feedback and suggestions.

### Teaching Tips:

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**Teaching Tips:**

- Encourage students to use a feedback rubric to guide their feedback and suggestions.
- Provide guidance on how to give and receive feedback in a constructive and respectful manner.
- Allow students to reflect on their own learning and identify areas for improvement.

### Conclusion and Reflection (5 minutes)

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**Conclusion:**

Summarize the key points of the lesson, and ask students to reflect on what they learned.

**Reflection:**

Provide feedback and encouragement, and encourage students to continue practicing and applying their reading comprehension and writing skills.

### Teaching Tips:

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**Teaching Tips:**

- Use a visual aid, such as a diagram or chart, to summarize the key points of the lesson.
- Ask students to reflect on their own learning and identify areas for improvement.
- Provide feedback and encouragement, and encourage students to continue practicing and applying their reading comprehension and writing skills.

## Appendix

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**Sample Texts and Graphic Organizers:**

Provide sample texts and graphic organizers for students to use during the lesson.

**Sentence Frames and Writing Templates:**

Provide sentence frames and writing templates for students to use during the lesson.

**Assessment Rubrics and Evaluation Criteria:**

Provide assessment rubrics and evaluation criteria for students to use during the lesson.