



Modified 5E - Gift of the Magi (Research)

Motivations

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Grade Level	10th Grade	Time Frame	60 minutes
Subject	English/Language Arts	Duration	2 periods

Essential Question

What motivates people to take action? How do we determine selfless actions?

Summary

Students evaluate what motivates people, especially as it relates to the characters in "The Gift of the Magi." As they read and listen to the story, students identify thoughts and feelings that relate to the motivations and actions of the main characters. Students also look for and create their own examples of selfless acts and altruism in our 21st-century world.

Snapshot

Engage

Students view slideshow images of people in order to consider their emotions and motivations. Then they complete the first part of an "I Used to Think... But Now I Know" activity.

Explore

Students listen to and follow along with the short story "The Gift of the Magi," by O. Henry and highlight words and phrases that relate to the emotions and motivations exhibited by the husband and wife in the story.

Explain

Students create a collaborative Word Cloud of examples of character motivations from the story and discuss what motivates the students daily.

Extend

Students write a modern version of the story using Cognitive Comics to help them illustrate their revisions.

Evaluate

Students revisit the slideshow images to consider how their initial thoughts about motivation have changed.

Standards

Oklahoma Academic Standards for English Language Arts (Grade 10)

10.3.R.3: Students will analyze how authors use key literary elements to contribute to meaning and interpret how themes are connected across texts:

- character development
- theme
- conflict (i.e., internal and external)
- archetypes

Attachments

- [Cognitive Comics—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi - Spanish.docx](#)
- [Cognitive Comics—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [Cognitive Comics—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi.docx](#)
- [Cognitive Comics—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi.pdf](#)
- [I Used To Think, But Now I Know—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi - Spanish.docx](#)
- [I Used To Think, But Now I Know—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [I Used To Think, But Now I Know—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi.docx](#)
- [I Used To Think, But Now I Know—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi.pdf](#)
- [Shortened Lesson Slides—Motivations in The Gift of the Magi \(1\).pptx](#)
- [The Gift of the Magi Story - Spanish.docx](#)
- [The Gift of the Magi Story - Spanish.pdf](#)
- [The Gift of the Magi Story.docx](#)
- [The Gift of the Magi Story.pdf](#)

Materials

- Shortened Lesson Slides (attached)
- "The Gift of the Magi," by O. Henry (attached; one per student)
- I Used to Think... But Now I Know handouts (attached; one per student)
- Cognitive Comics (attached; one per student)
- Pens/pencils
- Student devices
- Highlighters
- Markers
- Sharpies

Engage

Teacher's Note: Preparation for the Lesson

Before the lesson, you will need to queue up a [Collaborative Word Cloud](#) to share out with students so they can participate in the Explain activity.

Copy this [Mentimeter presentation](#) to your own account and update the link in the Lesson Slides prior to facilitating the activity below.

First, open the presentation and select "Copy to your Account." Once in your account, select "Share" to generate a new link for students to use. Paste the new link into **slide 12**.

Use the attached **Lesson Slides** to guide the instruction. Begin the lesson by displaying **slides 2-3** and share the Essential Questions and Learning Objectives with students to the extent you feel necessary.

Display **slide 4**. Introduce the [I Used to Think... But Now I Know](#) activity and pass out copies of the **I Used to Think, But Now I Know** handout. Show the students the images on **slides 5-9**. After each image, pause to give students time to write down an emotion or motivation they think influences the actions of the people in the image. They should write these in the "I Used to Think" column of their handouts. Once you have shown all of the images, display them a second time, pausing for the students to share what they have written down.

Explore

Hand out copies of the attached story, "**The Gift of the Magi**" by O. Henry. Have students listen to the story. You can either read it aloud to them or play a read-aloud version of the story found [here](#). As they listen, have students follow along with the text and use the [Categorical Highlighting](#) strategy to highlight and annotate instances when the main characters demonstrate their emotions and what the factors are that motivate them to take certain actions.

Day 1 Survey Instructions

When there is 15 minutes left in class, transition to **slide 10-11**, distribute the survey and allow students to have the remainder of the period to complete the survey.

Explain

At this time, display **slide 12** and share the link to the [Collaborative Word Cloud generator](#) that you set up earlier for the class. As students type in their examples, guide them to make the observation that the larger the word in the cloud, the more consensus the class has on what the types of motivation the larger the words will be. Are there any words that surprise you? Stick out to you? Make you wonder?

As a class, discuss the motivations of the characters. What are some things that motivate you daily?

Extend

Move to **slide 13**. Share the instructional strategy [Cognitive Comics](#) with students and pass out the attached **Cognitive Comics Template**. Invite students to retell the story of "The Gift of the Magi" as if it were written in the present. Rewrite the story in the three (3) provided boxes. Instruct students to be sure to weave in thoughts, actions, and motivations in particular.

Evaluate

Display **slide 14**. As a whole class, have students ask students to view the images they examined at the start of the lesson. Display **Slides 15–19**. Have students take out their "I Used to Think... But Now I Know" handouts. Invite them to reflect again on the images and add to any thoughts they initially had. At this time, they can check to make sure the whole task is complete and submit their templates as a formative evaluation.

Day 2 Survey Instructions

When there are 15 minutes left in class, transition to **slide 20-21**, distribute the survey and allow students to have the remainder of the period to complete the survey.

Resources

- CommonLit. (n.d.). The Gift of the Magi. <https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/the-gift-of-the-magi>
- K20 Center. (n.d.). Categorical highlighting. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/fc74060730ea745c8c4f356aa204c85d>
- K20 Center. (2020, Sept 22). Cognitive comics. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/fe96d3de46cfdc1f385aab7e7500a422>
- K20 Center. (n.d.). Collaborative word clouds. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/b30762a7557ba0b391f207f4c60119f6>
- K20 Center. (n.d.). I used to think . . . but now I know. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/137>