



The Last Leaf

Activity – I: Pre-Reading

SKILL AREA: CREATIVITY

Learning Outcomes: The students will be able to
understand the central theme and writer's message.
enhance their creative and imagination skills.

Task: Predict the theme from the title of the story 'The Last Leaf'.

Time Required: One period

Procedure:

1. The teacher distributes the worksheets in class.
2. Students are instructed to complete the second part of the task in pairs.
3. The teacher facilitates a class discussion.

WORKSHEET

Discuss with your partner what the story could be about. (Hints: season when leaves fall from trees)

We think the story _____



Now, look at the two pictures of the same plant taken at different times of the year. What emotions do the two arouse in you?

Picture 1: _____

Picture 2: _____

This task need not be graded.



Activity – II: While-Reading

SKILL AREA: SPEAKING

Learning Outcomes: The students will be able to
 understand the story.
 enhance their speaking skills.

Time Required: One period

This activity is to be conducted just after Sue discusses Johnsy's fears about the last leaf with Behrman.

Procedure:

1. The teacher divides the class in groups.
2. On the basis of their reading of the text till this point, the teacher instructs the students to predict what they think could happen next.
3. The students are asked to speak what they predict and why.

Assessment Criteria:

Coherence and connectivity
 Appropriate vocabulary/word choice
 Innovativeness and Originality
 Logicality of prediction

Feedback:

For students who are not trained in the art of self expression, this activity may not take off too well. The teacher is expected to motivate students to express their opinion without any inhibitions.

Some of the common errors of the students may be discussed in the class.

Activity – III: Post-Reading

SKILL AREA: READING

Learning Outcomes: The students will be able to
 read for understanding.
 map concepts using a graphic organiser.



MOMENTS

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Time Required: One period

Procedure:

1. Students read the story silently.
2. After the students have finished reading the text, they are given the worksheet.
3. After they have done the exercise the responses are discussed in the class.

Assessment Criteria:

Understanding of the text

Clarity of concepts

Valid reasons

Accept varied answers with acceptable reasoning.

Feedback:

The teacher may support the students by clarifying the qualities of the characters with examples from the story.

WORKSHEET

Theme

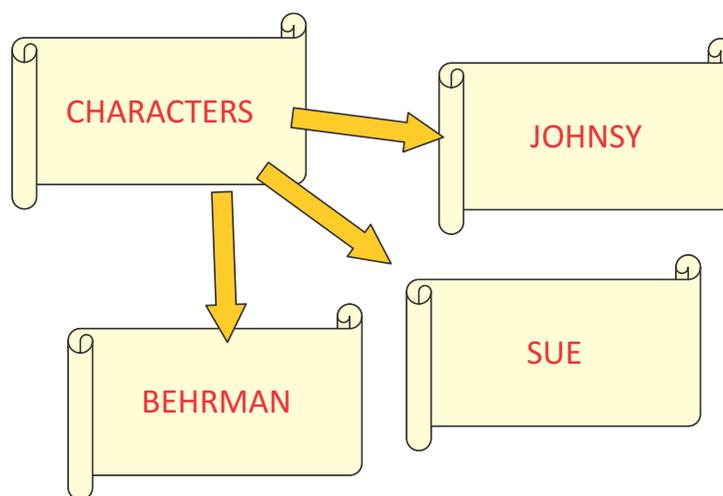
1. What is the theme of the story 'The Last Leaf'? Choose the correct option and complete the banner. You may write the theme in your own words.
 - ☞ Everyone gets a chance to paint a masterpiece
 - ☞ Art is permanent but life is transient
 - ☞ Friends must give up their lives for each other
 - ☞ Doctors are of little help when people suffer from serious illnesses



- ☞ You should not judge people by their outward appearances or social persona.
- ☞ One must be mentally strong to survive a sickness
- ☞ Good art always stems from sacrifice

2. Write at least two qualities of each of the characters in the story. You may choose words from the words given in the box below or write words on your own. Give reasons to support your choice.

Protective	Arrogant	Sensitive	Loving	Immature	Friendly
Faithful	Treacherous		Sympathetic		Unfeeling
Caring		Emotionally weak		Sincere	Sacrificing
	Emotionally strong	Determined	Submissive	Resigned to fate	Gruff



Activity – IV: Post-Reading

SKILL AREA: WRITING/THEATRE

Learning Outcomes: The students will be able to

write realistic dialogues and understand the perspective of different characters.

enhance their creativity and theatrical skills.

Task: Role play



MOMENTS

FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Time Required: Three periods

Procedure:

1. The teacher divides the class into groups of four or five.
2. Each group is assigned an episode from the story.
3. The students write the dialogue for their part of the story after discussion amongst themselves.
4. The whole story is enacted by the class in chronological order.

Assessment Criteria:

Clarity of thoughts

Quality of dialogues

Team work

Appropriate language

Feedback:

The teacher guides the students in framing the dialogues and understanding the character for dramatic presentation.

Activity – V: Post-Reading

SKILL AREA: THINKING/WRITING/SPEAKING

Learning Outcomes: The students will be able to

learn the technique of personification.

enhance their creativity and thinking skills.

give words to their thoughts.

Time Required: One period

Procedure:

1. The teacher instructs the students to define personification and elaborate on the technique of personification.



2. Students think if they had been the last leaf what they would like to tell Sue before falling down.
3. The students are asked to write minimum five lines as the leaf and speak in the class.

Assessment Criteria:

Clarity of thought

Fluency of expression

Understanding of the concept

Presentation

Feedback:

The students may find it difficult to understand personification, the teacher may explain.