

Introduction

The Dombey And Son ESL Lesson Plan introduces students to the classic novel by Charles Dickens, offering an engaging way to improve English language skills through literature. This lesson plan aims to enhance students' vocabulary, comprehension, and communication skills by exploring the themes and characters in Dombey And Son. As a well-known piece of literature, this topic can spark students' interest and motivate them to participate actively in the learning process while immersing themselves in English language usage and storytelling.

Vocabulary Building

Vocab

Vocab	Definition
Patriarch	A male head of a family or tribe
Ambition	A strong desire to achieve something, typically requiring determination and hard work
Resentment	Bitter indignation at having been treated unfairly
Inheritance	(noun) a thing that is inherited; (verb) to receive money, property, or a title as an heir at the death of the previous holder.
Wealthy	Having a great deal of money, resources, or assets; rich.

Contextual Usage

1. The **patriarch** of the Dombey family was Mr. Dombey himself, who was

perceived as the authoritative figure.

2. Edith's **ambition** for independence led her to make difficult decisions.

3. There was **resentment** between characters due to past conflicts and misunderstandings.

4. The **inheritance** of Dombey's wealth became a significant plot point in the story.

5. Characters like Mr. Carker were portrayed as **wealthy** individuals due to their prosperous business ventures.

ESL Warm-up Activity

To set the tone for the Dombey And Son ESL lesson, start with a role-play activity where students take on the roles of different characters from the novel. This activity encourages students to use descriptive language, assume different personas, and engage in conversations using vocabulary relevant to the story's setting. By immersing themselves in character roles and dialogue, students can actively participate in a fun and interactive warm-up that prepares them for the thematic elements of Dombey And Son.

Main ESL Lesson Activities

Vocabulary Activity: Word Exploration

Divide the students into small groups and provide them with a list of vocabulary words from Dombey And Son. Instruct each group to come up with definitions, synonyms, antonyms, and example sentences for the assigned words. Encourage them to discuss and compare their findings as a group before presenting their results to the class.

Listening Exercise: Character Dialogues

Select key dialogues from the novel and create audio recordings or read them aloud in class. Have students listen carefully and take notes on the emotions, intentions, and conflicts expressed through the dialogues. Afterward, facilitate a class discussion about the characters' motivations and relationships based on these interactions.

Roleplay: Modern Adaptation

Task students with creating a modern-day adaptation of a scene from *Dombey And Son*. In groups, they should rewrite the dialogue and actions to reflect present-day language usage while maintaining fidelity to the characters' personalities. Encourage creativity in integrating contemporary themes into their adaptations.

Reading and Writing: Letter Composition

After reading a specific section of the novel, have students imagine themselves as one of the characters and write a letter expressing their thoughts or emotions regarding events in the story. This activity encourages critical thinking while practicing writing skills related to character perspective and narrative storytelling.

ESL Homework Assignment

For homework, students are assigned the task of selecting a character from *Dombey And Son* and writing a journal entry from that character's perspective. They should reflect on a pivotal event in the story and convey their thoughts, emotions, and reactions through the chosen character's voice. This activity reinforces reading comprehension and encourages students to delve deeper into character motivations, ultimately enhancing their understanding of the novel.

Conclusion

Summary

Throughout this ESL lesson plan on *Dombey And Son*, students have explored rich vocabulary, engaged in character dialogues, and exercised creative writing skills through roleplay and letter composition activities.

Reflection

As students reflect on what they have learned, encourage them to consider how immersing themselves in the language and themes of a classic novel like *Dombey And Son* can significantly enhance their language development. By delving into characters' emotions and motivations within the context of the story, students can expand their linguistic capabilities while gaining insight into human interactions and societal dynamics.

Why this topic is great for ESL learning

Engagement with Classic Literature

Studying *Dombey And Son* as part of an ESL lesson plan provides students with the opportunity to engage with classic literature, offering exposure to sophisticated language and nuanced storytelling that can enrich their language skills.

Cultural and Historical Insights

The novel also offers cultural and historical insights, allowing students to explore

different societal norms and values prevalent during the time period in which the story is set. This exposure contributes to a more holistic understanding of English language usage and cultural context.