

# Introduction

The Call of the Wild ESL Lesson Plan introduces students to the classic novel by Jack London, offering a rich learning experience that combines language skills with literary exploration. This lesson plan aims to engage students in improving their English language abilities while delving into the themes, characters, and plot of the novel. By integrating language learning with literature, students can enhance their vocabulary, reading comprehension, and critical thinking skills. The Call of the Wild provides an immersive platform for ESL learners to explore storytelling, character development, and descriptive language in a captivating and meaningful way.

## Vocabulary Building

### Vocab

Vocab	Definition
<b>Sled dog</b>	A dog trained to pull a sled, commonly used in cold climates for transportation.
<b>Wilderness</b>	An uncultivated, uninhabited, and inhospitable region.
<b>Primitive</b>	Relating to an early stage of cultural or technological development; basic or rudimentary.
<b>Instinct</b>	An innate, typically fixed pattern of behavior in animals in response to certain stimuli.
<b>Adaptation</b>	The process of adjusting to new conditions or environment for survival.

### Contextual Usage

1. The protagonist in the novel, Buck, is a powerful **sled dog** who demonstrates remarkable strength and endurance.
2. The story is set in the Alaskan **wilderness**, where the characters face numerous challenges and dangers.
3. The author vividly describes the **primitive** lifestyle of the characters, highlighting their struggle for survival.
4. Buck's **instincts** as a domesticated pet gradually transform as he adapts to the harsh realities of the wild.
5. The novel explores the theme of **adaptation** as Buck learns to survive and thrive in his changing environment.

## ESL Warm-up Activity

To set the tone for the lesson, begin with an engaging warm-up activity. Create a scenario where students are stranded in a snowy wilderness and have to work together to survive. Use descriptive language related to the setting of "The Call of the Wild" to immerse students in the theme of the novel. Encourage them to use vocabulary related to survival, nature, and animals as they discuss their strategies for staying safe and finding help. This activity will not only capture students' attention but also introduce key themes and vocabulary that will be explored further in the lesson.

## Main ESL Lesson Activities

### Vocabulary Activity: Word Scramble

Divide the class into small groups and provide each group with a set of vocabulary words related to the novel. The words should be scrambled, and the groups must work together to unscramble them. Encourage them to discuss the meanings of the words as they unscramble them. This activity will reinforce their understanding of key terms while promoting teamwork and collaboration.

# **Listening Exercise: Character Descriptions**

Play audio clips or read aloud descriptions of different characters from "The Call of the Wild." In pairs, students take turns listening to the descriptions and drawing what they imagine the characters look like based on the details provided. This activity will enhance listening skills and encourage creative interpretation of descriptive language.

## **Roleplay: Survival Scenario**

Assign each student a role related to survival in the wilderness, such as a stranded hiker or a rescue team member. In small groups, students must engage in roleplay conversations using vocabulary and phrases relevant to survival situations. This hands-on exercise will allow students to apply language in context while developing their speaking and improvisation skills.

## **Reading and Writing: Journal Reflection**

After reading a chapter from "The Call of the Wild," ask students to write journal entries from the perspective of one of the characters. Encourage them to use descriptive language and express thoughts and emotions related to events in the story. Following this, facilitate a group discussion where students can share their journal entries and insights, promoting both writing skills and critical thinking.

## **ESL Homework Assignment**

For homework, students are tasked with writing a short story set in the wilderness, incorporating at least five vocabulary words from "The Call of the Wild" lesson. Encourage them to use descriptive language and character development, mirroring the style of Jack London's writing. Additionally, students should prepare a brief presentation on a survival skill or technique relevant to the novel's themes, such as

building a shelter or identifying edible plants. This assignment reinforces the lesson content while fostering creativity and research skills.

# Conclusion

## Key Points Summary

Throughout this ESL lesson plan on "The Call of the Wild," students have explored essential vocabulary related to the novel, engaged in activities that enhance their listening, speaking, and writing skills, and delved into the themes of survival and adaptation.

## Reflection and Application

As students reflect on this lesson, they can recognize how the language skills and literary analysis developed during this lesson can be applied to a wide range of English language contexts. Understanding descriptive language, character development, and thematic elements not only enriches their comprehension of literature but also strengthens their overall language proficiency. This integration of language learning with literature provides a holistic approach to ESL education, fostering a deeper appreciation for storytelling while honing linguistic abilities.

## Why this topic is great for ESL learning

The Call of the Wild ESL Lesson Plan is an excellent topic for ESL learning due to its numerous benefits for language development.

## Engaging and Captivating

The novel's adventurous storyline and vivid descriptions of the wilderness captivate students' attention, making the learning experience more enjoyable and motivating. This engagement helps foster a positive attitude towards language learning.

## **Rich Vocabulary**

"The Call of the Wild" offers a wealth of vocabulary related to nature, survival, and character traits. By exploring these terms in context, students expand their vocabulary repertoire and develop a deeper understanding of word usage.

## **Critical Thinking Skills**

Analyzing the themes, characters, and plot of the novel encourages students to think critically and make connections between different elements. This enhances their ability to comprehend complex texts and express their thoughts effectively.

## **Cultural Understanding**

Through "The Call of the Wild," students gain insights into American literature and culture. They explore themes such as adventure, resilience, and the human-animal bond, broadening their cultural knowledge while improving their language skills.

## **Integration of Language Skills**

This ESL lesson plan integrates various language skills such as reading, writing, listening, speaking, and vocabulary building. By engaging in diverse activities related to the novel, students practice these skills in a meaningful context. Overall, "The Call of the Wild" provides an immersive platform for ESL learners to develop language proficiency while exploring timeless themes and engaging with captivating literature.