

Discipline: Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening

Standard Category: Reading, Analyzing, and Interpreting Literature

Lesson Focus: Comparing characters

PA Standard(s):	Related TESOL Standard(s):
1.3.3B: Identify literary elements in stories describing characters, setting, and plot.	Goal 2: To use English to achieve academically in all content areas. Standard 2: Students will use English to obtain, process construct, and provide subject matter information in spoken and written form.

Key Objectives in Accordance with TESOL Level:

Pre-Conversational/ Beginning	Intermediate	Advanced
Students will be able to: • Look and draw physical differences between themselves and another student.	Students will be able to: • Discuss, draw, and write some words for physical and non-physical differences between themselves and a partner.	Students will be able to: • Discuss, draw, and write sentences about physical and non-physical differences between themselves and a partner.

Materials:

1. Two different pictures of similar but not identical people or animals
2. Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister
3. Big Al by Andrew Clements Yoshi
4. Paper, crayons, pencils
5. Character chart

Procedures: (ESL suggestions are written in italics)

1. The teacher will show the class two pictures of animals or people that are similar yet different. The students will compare and contrast them while the teacher makes a list of their responses. The teacher should use words and simple pictures for this.
The use of visual cues develops meaning and vocabulary for the ESL student.
2. The teacher will ask students to look for similarities and differences between the characters of two different stories.
3. The teacher will read The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister. The class will discuss and the teacher will list (with pictures!) the character traits of the Rainbow Fish on the left column of a poster or chart.
4. The teacher will read Big Al by Andrew Clements Yoshi. The class will discuss and the teacher will list (with pictures!) the character traits of Big Al on the right column of the same poster or chart.
5. The teacher will ask the students to look at both lists and ask the

Suggested

Level:

Primary:

Lesson Focus:

Comparing characters

Teaching

Strategies:

Whole group instruction

Paired collaboration

Assessment

Strategies:

Observation

Anecdotal records

Guiding rubric

students what traits are the same. As they answer, the teacher will draw a line to match these traits on the list.

6. The teacher will ask the students to look at both lists again and ask the students what traits are different. As they answer, the teacher will circle these traits on the lists with a different color.
7. The teacher will use these similarities and differences to model a Venn diagram for the class on these two characters.
8. The teacher will explain that the students will practice looking for similarities and differences by comparing the main character of another story with Big Al (or the Rainbow Fish).
Students should be paired so that the ESL students are matched with someone who is comfortable with them and can effectively model and communicate with them.
9. Students will list character traits of the new person/thing assigned to them. They should compare their list to the list already created for Big Al. Students should be encouraged to use more than just physical traits.
10. Students should share their findings with the class and discuss.
11. The students will then work independently at their seats to write or illustrate their similarities and differences independently.

Assessment:

- The teacher will assess the student's work through observation and anecdotal records.
- The teacher will use the following guiding checklist.
 - Can draw similarities/differences in characters
 - Can verbally explain similarities/differences
 - Can write words for the similarities/differences
 - Can write sentences for similarities/differences
 - Includes physical and nonphysical similarities/differences

Beginning

The teacher will check to see if the student can meet the first one or two expectations.

Intermediate

The teacher will check to see if the student can meet the first three expectations.

Advanced

The teacher will check to see if the student can meet four or five of the expectations.