

Note: This is the model lesson plan for the poetry section. The intent of this lesson plan is to familiarize the teacher with the pedagogical techniques and procedures required for an able handling of the course.

For the 'Pre-reading' and 'Reading' sections, a similar set of instructions are to be followed for all poems.

Section III: Think Like a Tree

Overview

This poem eulogizes trees and talks about their importance in our lives. It also establishes what positive characteristics and values we can imbibe from them.

Learning targets

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to

- think about trees as animate and living creatures;
- know more about descriptive poems;
- know more about the device of personification;
- be familiar with the diamante style of poem.

Pre-reading

1. Let the students sit with their books closed. Generate a discussion through the following questions. Allow the students to answer either individually or in chorus. Allot ten minutes for the discussion.

- *Do they like trees?*
- *What qualities of trees do they find attractive, valuable, worth emulating?*
- *Have they noticed the hardships, natural or man-made, that trees have to endure?*

All student responses should be encouraged and appreciated. The teacher should carefully monitor the discussion to prevent chaos.

2. Now ask the students to open their books and turn to the corresponding lesson.

Reading

1. Instruct the students to silently read the poem.
2. Draw their attention to the difficult words given in the glossary box.
3. Add your explanations to these if necessary. Also explain words, phrases or expressions that you think they may find difficult to understand.

4. Ask the students to point out any other words or phrases they find to be difficult, or do not know the meaning of. Explain them if that is the case.
5. Play the audio of the poem. The students should keep their books closed and listen to it with complete concentration, silently absorbing the rhythm and intonation of the language.
6. Now read the poem out loud, and this time, the students should follow the lines in their books.
7. Now that the poem has been read and heard, divide the students into groups and discuss the following questions:
 - *Did they like the poem? Ask them to give reasoned answers.*
 - *What do they think about the various characteristics of trees that the poet has described?*
8. Discuss the answers provided by various groups. All responses should be encouraged and appreciated to make the discussion more interactive.

Post-reading

Learn to appreciate the poem

1. For questions 1, 2, 4 and 5, ask the students to scan the text for answers. After they have done so, ask the class to supply the answers aloud, one at a time. You may also ask individual students to do so.
2. For questions 3 and 6, ask them to brainstorm aloud. Allow them to refer to the poem. Discuss disagreements, if any.

Activity

1. Divide the students into pairs or small groups of four. Explain to them the instructions given for this activity. Ask them to complete the exercise. Allow this to be an exercise for fun and creativity only, rather than accuracy. This will facilitate fluency and imagination.

Additional digital resources

Pages	Audios	Animations
33	Poem audio: Think Like a Tree	Poem animation: Think Like a Tree