

Character Analysis of Aesop's Fable: The Hare and the Tortoise

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to describe characters in Aesop's fable "The Hare and the Tortoise," and classify similarities and dissimilarities between them.

ASSESSMENTS:

Students will complete a character chart that identifies key traits of the characters and compares their actions and motivations. They will also participate in a group discussion to analyze the moral of the story.

KEY POINTS:

- Understanding character traits: Students will learn how to identify and describe character traits using textual evidence.
- Comparing characters: Students will classify similarities and differences between the Hare and the Tortoise.
- Moral of the story: Discussing the moral lesson presented in "The Hare and the Tortoise."

OPENING:

- Begin with a short [music video](#) that illustrates themes of perseverance and competition.
- Pose the question: "What do you think the moral of a story is?" to engage students.
- Briefly discuss their thoughts on morals in fables.

INTRODUCTION TO NEW MATERIAL:

- Read "The Hare and the Tortoise" aloud, ensuring to use visual aids for visual impaired and bilingual students.
- Discuss key vocabulary: "character," "traits," "similarities," and "dissimilarities."
- Anticipate the misconception that characters are solely defined by their actions; clarify that traits also include motivations and feelings.

GUIDED PRACTICE:

- Divide students into pairs and provide them with a character chart.
- Model filling out the chart using examples from the text for the Hare and the Tortoise.
- Ask questions that scaffold understanding, such as "What does the Hare's speed tell us about his character?" and "How does the Tortoise's determination shape his actions?"

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE:

- Students will complete their own character charts individually, identifying additional traits and motivations for both characters.
- Assign a short paragraph where they explain the moral of the story and how it relates to the characters' traits.

CLOSING:

- Have students share their character charts in small groups.
- Summarize the key takeaways about how character traits influence actions and the overall moral of the fable.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

- Students who finish early can create a comic strip that depicts a new scenario involving the Hare and the Tortoise, highlighting character traits in action.


HOMEWORK:

- Write Reflection or draw on how the moral of "The Hare and the Tortoise" can apply to real-life situations, using personal examples.


























STANDARDS ALIGNED:

- ELA.7.R.1.1: Analyze the impact of setting on character development and plot in a literary text.
 - ELA.7.R.1.3: Explain the influence of narrator(s), including unreliable narrator(s), and/or shifts in point of view in a literary text.
 - ELA.7.C.4.1: Conduct research to answer a question, drawing on multiple reliable and valid sources and generating additional questions for further research.
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The Hare and the Tortoise — Quiz

 The Tortoise and the Hare - Quiz Worksheet

 Multiple Choice Questions (Circle the correct answer):

1. Who challenges whom to a race in the story?
 - a)  challenges 
 - b)  challenges 
 - c)  challenges 
 - d)  challenges 
2. What is the main reason the hare is confident he will win?
 - a)  is faster than 
 - b)  has practiced a lot 
 - c)  has a secret path 
 - d)  is sleepy 
3. What does the hare do during the race that causes him to lose?
 - a) He gets lost 
 - b) He takes a nap 
 - c) He helps the tortoise  
 - d) He gets tired 
4. What lesson does the story teach?
 - a)  Slow and steady wins the race
 - b)  Speed is the most important
 - c)  Always trust your friends
 - d)  Never race animals

✓✗ True or False (Circle T for True or F for False):

1. 🐢 The tortoise moves very quickly during the race.

T / F

2. 🐰 The hare underestimates the tortoise's determination.

T / F

3. 🏁 The tortoise wins because he never gives up.

T / F

4. 🐰 The hare finishes the race before the tortoise.

T / F

🐢🐰 Multiple Choice Questions:

1. Who challenges whom to a race in the story?

- a) 🐢 challenges 🐰
- b) 🐰 challenges 🐢 ✓
- c) 🐰 challenges 🦊
- d) 🐢 challenges 🦊

2. What is the main reason the hare is confident he will win?

- a) 🐰 is faster than 🐢 ✓
- b) 🐰 has practiced a lot 🏃
- c) 🐰 has a secret path 🗺️
- d) 🐢 is sleepy 😴

3. What does the hare do during the race that causes him to lose?

- a) He gets lost 🧭
- b) He takes a nap 😴 ✓

c) He helps the tortoise 🐢❤️

d) He gets tired 😞

4. What lesson does the story teach?

a) 🐢 Slow and steady wins the race ✓

b) 🏎️ Speed is the most important

c) 🤝 Always trust your friends

d) 🚫 Never race animals

✓✗ True or False:

1. 🐢 The tortoise moves very quickly during the race. ✗

2. 🐇 The hare underestimates the tortoise's determination. ✓

3. 🏁 The tortoise wins because he never gives up. ✓

4. 🐇 The hare finishes the race before the tortoise. ✗

Short Answer:

9. Describe how the hare behaves during the race.

10. What is the moral of the story, and why is it important?

Vocabulary:

11. What does the word "steady" mean in the phrase "slow and steady wins the race"?

12. Explain the meaning of the word "underestimate" in the context of the story.

Lesson Plan: Comparing Two Characters Using a Double Bubble Map

Subject: Language Arts

Duration: 45–60 minutes

Text: The Hare and the Tortoise

Focus Skill: Compare and contrast character traits

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

- 1. Identify traits, actions, and motivations of two characters.**
 - 2. Compare and contrast the characters using a Double Bubble Map.**
 - 3. Use evidence from the story to support comparisons.**
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Materials Needed:

- Story: The Hare and the Tortoise (audio, print, or digital version)**
- Large chart paper or Smart Board for model Double Bubble Map**

- Printed Double Bubble Map templates (enlarged for low vision if needed)
- Character Trait Word Bank (large print and/or tactile options)
- Vocabulary [flashcards](#) (e.g., confident, patient, lazy, focused)

Word

Meaning

Compare

To find how things are the same

Contrast

To find how things are different

Trait

A quality or feature of a character

Confident

Feeling sure about yourself

Patient

Able to wait without getting upset

Focused

Paying close attention

Lazy

Not wanting to work or try hard

Introduction (10 minutes):

Engage:

- **Ask: “Can two people be very different and still reach the same goal?”**
 - **Briefly retell or play an audio version of The Hare and the Tortoise.**
 - **Review the two main characters and what happens in the story.**
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Main Activity (30 minutes):

1. Character Trait Brainstorm (10 minutes):

- **Use large chart paper or Smart Board.**
- **List traits for the Hare and the Tortoise as a class.**
- **Provide students with a trait word bank to choose from.**

Examples:

- **Hare: fast, proud, overconfident, lazy**
- **Tortoise: slow, determined, patient, focused**

2. Introduce Double Bubble Map (5 minutes):

- **Show an example on the board.**
- **Explain: Two circles in the center for the characters (Hare and Tortoise), outer bubbles for unique traits, and shared bubbles in the middle.**

3. Complete the Map Together (15 minutes):

- **Fill out the map with student input.**
- **Use phrases like:**
 - **“What do they both want?” (to win the race)**
 - **“What’s different about how they try?”**
 - **“Who never gave up?”**

Double Bubble Map Example:

Hare (Left)	Shared (Middle)	Tortoise (Right)
Fast	Both raced	Slow
Proud	Both wanted to win	Patient

Lazy

Both learned a lesson

Hardworking

Guided Practice (10 minutes):

Partner or Small Group Task:

- Give students their own large-print Double Bubble Map.
 - Ask them to work together to add at least two new traits or behaviors for each character.
 - Encourage use of vocabulary words and story examples.
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Conclusion & Reflection (5–10 minutes):

Discuss:

- “Why is it helpful to compare characters?”
- “What lesson did both the Hare and Tortoise learn?”

Exit Prompt (Write or Say):

“The Hare is ____ but the Tortoise is _____. They are both _____.”

Assessment:






- **Completed Double Bubble Map with at least 3 unique and 2 shared traits**
 - **Participation in group discussion and brainstorming**
 - **Exit prompt response (written or oral)**
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Adaptations for Low Vision:



- **Provide enlarged Double Bubble Map templates (at least 18–24 pt font)**
 - **High-contrast paper (yellow on black or black on white)**
 - **Use Smart Board or digital magnifiers for visuals**
 - **Read-aloud support for vocabulary and instructions**
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The Lion and the Mouse




A Timeless Tale of Friendship & Kindness

In a  lush jungle, a mighty lion —the king of beasts—was resting peacefully. Suddenly, a tiny mouse  ran across and woke him up! 
Annoyed, the lion caught the mouse with his huge paw , ready to end its life.

The little mouse squeaked , “Please let me go! One day, I might help you!” 

The lion laughed , thinking it was impossible, but let the mouse go .
The mouse ran away, thankful  .

A few days later... the lion got caught in a hunter’s net . He roared for help . Hearing him, the mouse rushed back   and cut the ropes with his sharp teeth , setting the lion free! 

Moral:  No act of kindness is ever wasted. Even the smallest friend can make the biggest difference.  

Story Sequencing with The Lion and the Mouse | Read

LEARNING OBJECTIVE:

Students will be able to sequence the events of the story "The Lion and the Mouse" by identifying key events and filling in the blanks on a worksheet.

ASSESSMENTS:

Students will complete a fill-in-the-blank worksheet about the story to demonstrate their understanding of the sequence of events.

KEY POINTS:

- **Understanding the main events of the story "The Lion and the Mouse."**
- **Identifying the characters: the Lion and the Mouse.**
- **Learning the concept of sequencing events (first, next, last).**
- **Using textual evidence to support their answers.**
- **Discussing how the characters' actions affect the story.**

OPENING:

- **Begin by asking students: "What do you think will happen if a lion and a mouse meet?"**
- **Share a brief overview of the story without giving away the ending to pique interest.**
- **Engage students by showing images of a lion and a mouse to connect them to the story.**

INTRODUCTION TO NEW MATERIAL:

- **Read the story "The Lion and the Mouse" aloud to the class.**
- **Pause at key points to ask students questions about what just happened (e.g., "What did the mouse do to help the lion?").**
- **Discuss the order of events as they unfold in the story.**
- **Anticipate misconceptions such as students thinking all animals can talk or that the mouse is not important in the story.**

GUIDED PRACTICE:

- After reading, guide students through the fill-in-the-blank worksheet together.
- Model how to identify the first event in the story.
- Prompt students to share what they think happens next, scaffolding questions from simple (e.g., "What happened after the lion woke up?") to more complex (e.g., "Why do you think the mouse helped the lion?").
- Monitor student responses and provide support as needed.

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE:

- Students will complete their fill-in-the-blank worksheets individually.
- Set clear expectations for quiet work time and encourage them to refer back to the story if they need help.
- Circulate the room to assist students and ensure they understand the sequencing of events.

CLOSING:

- Ask students to share one thing they learned from the story about the lion and the mouse.
- Recap the main events of the story together as a class to reinforce their understanding.

EXTENSION ACTIVITY:

- For students who finish early, provide them with a drawing activity, listening to the music story.
<https://www.notu.us/ela-the-lion-and-the-mouse/>. Play List.

HOMEWORK:

- Assign students to retell the story at home to a family member, focusing on the sequence of events.





STANDARDS ALIGNED:

- Visual impaired, dyslexic, and bilingual students.

- **New Generation Learning Standards 6-8 R1: Cite textual evidence to support an analysis of what the text says explicitly/implicitly and make logical inferences.**

Fill in the Blank:

1. The big animal in the story is a _____.
2. The small animal who helped the lion was a _____.
3. The lion got caught in a _____.
4. The mouse used his _____ to help the lion.
5. The story teaches us about _____ and kindness.

 **Word Bank:** net , teeth , lion ,
friendship , mouse 