

“The Gift of the Magi” by O. Henry Lesson Plan

Pre Reading: Vocabulary

Parsimony - extreme stinginess; not wanting to give money or favors
Instigate - to provoke or stir up
Prosperity - having good fortune
Unassuming - not arrogant
Attend - take charge or deal with
Calculate - predict in advance
Agile - mentally quick
Depreciate - lower the value of something
Envy - a desire to have something possessed by another
Cascade - a small waterfall
Falter - move hesitantly
Ransack - search thoroughly
Meretricious - tastelessly showy
Prudence - showing discretion
Ravage - a destructive action
Truant - absent without permission
Sentiment - tender, romantic, or nostalgic feeling or emotion
Scrutiny - a long, tense look
Ardent - characterized by strong enthusiasm
Adorn - make more attractive by adding color or ornament
Ecstatic - feeling great happiness or delight
Nimble - moving quickly and lightly

Pre Reading: Irony

Introduce Irony with this worksheet -

<http://www.ereadingworksheets.com/reading-worksheets/irony-worksheet.pdf>

Post Reading Activity:

Review plot device elements and identify type of irony in the story.

Fill out plot chart for the story -

http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson800/IdentifyPlot.pdf