

# A Tale of Two Cities (Dr Manette in the garret) – Lesson plan

<b>Level:</b>	Strong Intermediate plus (B1/B2+): suitable for adults/older teens who enjoy creative writing and an element of competition.
<b>Time:</b>	90 minutes.
<b>Main Aim(s):</b>	To encourage students to engage with and speculate about a literary text, and to turn that speculation into accurate writing.
<b>Subsidiary Aim(s):</b>	For students to practise reading for gist and detail.
<b>Suggested timetable fit:</b>	As part of a series of lessons looking at literary texts to encourage extensive reading for pleasure.
<b>Materials:</b>	2 worksheets per student.  Provided text for final stage (single copy).  (Optional) Computers, printer.

## Procedure:

Stage and stage aim(s)	Timing	Interaction	Procedure
<b>Lead in</b> (to focus on topic)	10	t – st st – st t - st	Ask the students if they like mystery books or films, or thrillers, or anything when it is not clear who all the characters are, or what they are doing, or why they are doing it.  Students discuss examples they have enjoyed in groups of 3 or 4.  Conduct class feedback.
<b>Gist reading</b> (to develop the skill of skimming for main ideas)	10	st st - st t - st	Hand out <b>worksheet 1</b> .  Focus students on the questions in Exercise 1.  Tell them they have 5 minutes to find the answers. Stress that there are some words even an educated native speaker will find difficult, but that doesn't stop the meaning from coming through.  Pairs or groups discuss their answers.

## A Tale of Two Cities (Dr Manette in the garret) – Lesson plan

			<p>Encourage students to go back to text to justify their answers/find supporting evidence.</p> <p>Class feedback (answer, the shoemaker is unhealthy and mentally weak).</p>
<b>Detailed reading</b> (to help sts process ideas from different parts of a text)	15	st – st  t - st	<p>Pairs or small groups work through <b>exercise 2 on worksheet 2</b>. Allow dictionary use.</p> <p>In setting up the activity, mention that to answer the questions, they will need to combine different pieces of information from around the text, (this is why there is a generous time for the activity).</p> <p>Encourage them to justify answers they reject, as well as those they accept.</p> <p>Feedback (Answers: 1 (a); 2 (c); 3 (b – c may be true, but we do not know for sure); 4 (c); 5 (b))</p>
<b>Preparing for writing</b>	5	t-st	<p>Direct students to <b>exercise 3 on worksheet 2</b>. Ask them to decide their answer, then discuss in pairs, then feedback.</p>
<b>Writing stage 1</b> (to produce coherent stories)	20	st-st	<p>Groups of 3 discuss their version of the story, and then jointly write it up in 150 – 200 words.</p> <p>Teacher monitors more actively once writing has started, encouraging production of meaningful sentences, and focussing on coherence of text.</p>
<b>Writing stage 2</b> (to focus on accuracy in writing)	15	st - st	<p>Students use laptops or computer room to type up the text if available. All should use same font (Arial 11). Teacher monitors for accuracy, and encourages use of spell check and blue/green lines highlighting problems.</p>
<b>Reading colleagues' work</b> (to read for	15	st  st-st	<p>Students print off their work (if typed). Each text is published around the room along with the text below, which is the actual story.</p>

## A Tale of Two Cities (Dr Manette in the garret) – Lesson plan

interest, and to give a conclusion to the lesson)		t -st	<p>Students go around room reading the stories. Each group discusses the stories, and decides which to vote for.</p> <p>Class feedback. Groups vote. Focus on winning selection and (assuming it is not selected) the 'real' version.</p>
--	--	-------	---

### **Text for including alongside sts' work for 'reading colleagues' work' stage:**

The shoemaker is Dr Manette, who has spent many years in a famous French prison called the Bastille. So long, in fact, that he can't remember anything. Shoemaking, which started as a hobby, has become the only thing he understands. He has been released and is staying with his old servant, Defarge. Mr Lorry is an English lawyer who has brought Dr Manette's daughter, Lucie, to meet him. She had thought he died when she was very young.

They return to England and Dr Manette recovers his mind, nursed by Lucie. Lucie marries, but when the French revolution starts with the fall of the Bastille, Defarge finds a paper hidden in the prison written by Dr Manette putting a curse on a certain family. Lucie's husband is from this family, so he is sentenced to the guillotine by a court. But another man, who also loves Lucie, and who looks like her husband, takes his place and has his head cut off instead.