

The Tale of Two Cooking Pots

Narrative

Deductive

Warm up Questions:

- What does the word 'tale' in the title of the text suggest to you? (this is a story)

Read paragraph 1.

- Who is the main character of this tale? (Kisimba) Where is she going? What do you think she is going to do when she gets there? (she is going to the river to fetch some water)
- Does this opening paragraph suggest this tale will be set in Britain? Why? (no, the Molopo river is in Africa)

Main Questions:

1. The Tale of Two Cooking Pots is from Africa. Highlight evidence to prove this on your sheet. (Kalahari Desert, Molopo River)
2. Is Kisimba rich or poor? How do you know? (poor because she has to go a long way to fetch water and she lives in a tin shack)
3. When Kisimba sets off to the river, is it light or dark? How do you know? (dark - 'before the sun started to rise') Why do you think she sets off so early? (it will be cool then and she has a long way to go)
4. On a scale of 1 - 10, how strong do you think Kisimba is? Why do you think this? (8 - 'as strong as an ox', but she is old)
5. Can you think of an adjective to describe Kisimba's character? (hard-working, determined, kind, resourceful) Write it on your wipe board. Now show it to your group and say why you have chosen this word. Do they agree or disagree with you? Why?
6. Is the cracked pot upset by what the perfect pot says? How do you know? (yes, because a last drop of water runs down, like a tear)

Essential Vocabulary:

- Underline the word 'frail'. Pretend to be somebody who is frail. Show your teacher. What does this word mean? (weak, delicate)
- Highlight the word 'barren'. Do you think this is a positive or negative word? Why? (negative because nothing grows)
- Find the word 'perfect' and circle it. What do you think the opposite of this word will be? Write it on your wipe board.
unperfect disperfect imperfect (imperfect)
- Add the 'im' prefix to the following words. What do you think they mean?
possible polite patient personal
- Are these positive or negative words? (negative; they mean the opposite of the original words)
- Can you find an 'im' word in this tale that means 'not perfect'? (imperfection)
- Circle the words 'splashes' and 'speckling' in the penultimate paragraph. Does the writer use these words to show:
(a) the colourful flowers cover all the earth?
(b) the colourful flowers cover the earth here and there? (b). Draw your answer.

Evaluative Questions:

- How might a person be 'cracked' or 'imperfect'? (if they are disabled in any way, none of us is perfect)
- What do you think the moral of this tale is? (that even if we think people are imperfect, they can still be valuable)
- What does this tale teach us about how we should view disabled people? (we should look for what they can do, rather than what they can't do)
- Do you think this moral applies only to African people? Why? (no, it applies to people all over the world in different situations)
- How can this moral apply to British people? Can you think of a real example?