

Vocabulary Lesson

Story: "Flying Solo" by Matthew Hui in the May/June 2009 issue of *New Youth Connections* magazine

Objectives: Dictionary practice, close reading of a story, small group work.

What you'll need: Paper, pencils, dictionaries, black board or easel pad, chalk or marker

Before the lesson: Write the words from the list below on the pad or board

Divide your group into 3-4 subgroups.

Give each teen a copy of the May/June 2009 issue of *New Youth Connections* magazine. The story is on page 3. Or you can print the story from our web site by xxx...

Have each group read the story. When they are done ask them what they thought of the writer/main character. Ask each group to volunteer a 1-2 adjectives describing Matthew. What did they like about him? Dislike?

Then point to the list of words. Each group's job is to see which words may describe Matthew and which ones don't. They will need a dictionary to look up many of the words. Give them a 10-15 minute deadline depending on your schedule.

When time is up read off the first word and ask one of the groups if that word describes the author. Ask the other groups if they agree. If there is any disagreement ask someone to point to the place in the story that supports his or her view of the author's personality.

Meticulous
Loquacious
Adventuresome
Introverted
Abrasive
Telepathic
Itinerant
Fussy
Determined
Amiable

Resilient
Dour
Resourceful
Spontaneous
Gregarious
Methodical
Frugal
Pernicious
Acerbic
Ebullient

Close reading and chronology lesson

Story: "Flying Solo" by Matthew Hui in the May/June 2009 issue of *New Youth Connections* magazine

Objectives: Close initial reading of a story, reviewing a story for information, note taking, listening.

What you'll need: List of events for you to read aloud. The teens will need paper and pencils.

Divide your group into 3-4 subgroups.

Give each teen a copy of the May/June 2009 issue of *New Youth Connections* magazine. The story is on page 3. Or you can print the story from our web site by xxx...

Ask them to read the story.

After they are done, tell them you are going to read a list of events that occurred or were mentioned in the story. Their job is to put them in chronological order.

Read the events. Leave a few seconds between events to give them a chance to take notes. Here are the events, with the number indicating the chronology:

- 8) Grass sledding
- 2) Gets permission to go alone
- 11) Goes on shopping spree
- 1) Travels to Tokyo with parents
- 13) Decides he wants to become a pilot
- 9) Goes to bath house
- 5) Cousin buys tickets
- 10) Wins eating contest
- 7) Decides where to stay in Tokyo
- 12) Mother meets him at the airport
- 6) Checks luggage
- 10) Decides to stay longer
- 3) Chooses Tokyo as a destination
- 7) Eats ice cream and chocolate bars

Give them a few minutes to order the events and ask the first group that finishes to raise their hands. Go over the list and compare with other groups.