

Title: Wayside School is Falling Down

Lesson #1:

Skill - Story Structure, p. T16 or p.18; Point of View; Irony

Strategy - Summarize, p T16 or p. 18

Genre:

Humorous Fiction

Essential Question:

How can an experiment clarify and idea?

Think Through the Text:

1. What do Louis's actions in this scene reveal about his character? (p. T20 or p.22)
2. Look at the illustration on page 23. What does Louis's expression tell you about what is happening? What does the building in the background suggest about what Louis might have to do with the box? (p.T20 or p.22)
3. What is the style of the illustrations in this story? How does this portrayal of the events and characters contribute to the story's humorous tone? (p.T22 or p. 24)
4. What makes the passage about Miss Mush funny? (p.T22 or p. 25)
5. What details show Louis's dedication to his job? Quote accurately from the text to support your answer. (p.T22 or p. 25)
6. What does the author mean when he says Louis struggled up the last step? (p.T24 or p.26)
7. How does Mrs. Jewls's decision to hold a spelling bee contribute to the conflict in the story? (p.T24 or p.26)
8. What conflict does Mrs. Jewls have with the students about the computer? (p. T26 or p. 28)
9. What lesson has Louis learned? (p. T26 or p. 28)
10. Why does the author have one of the students use the idiomatic expression, "How I get it"? What does it mean? (p. T28 or p. 31)

Analyze the Text:

(p. T25) Read the Analyze the Text box on p. 26. Point of view is the perspective from which a story is told. Depending on the point of view, readers might know the thoughts and feelings of none, one, or all of the characters. On page 27 find this sentence: " He felt his

- hands go numb.” What point of view is this for the reader?
- (p. T27) Read the Analyze the Text box on p. 28. Each event in a story has to follow a logical path from what has already happened. Record notes on setting, character, and conflict using an organizer. What happens as a result of Louis trying to resolve his conflict?
- (p. T29 & p. T31) Read the Analyze the Text box on p. 31. Irony is when an event or outcome is the opposite of what was expected. Authors sometimes use irony to add interest to a story to make its ending more memorable. Why do you think our author used some irony when it came to the situation(s) with the computer and Louis?

Your Turn:

Return to the Essential Question (p. T32 & p. 34)

1. Why is the school yard a mess at the beginning of the story?
2. What do you learn about Louis’s character from the way he responds to his conflict?
3. What clues might have helped you predict the story’s ending?

Write About Reading:

(p. T33 or p. 35)