

Ray Bradbury: The Pedestrian

Wow, this is an excellent unit. The story is really good and will lead to good discussions. Your tasks are very meaningful and interesting. Great job!!!
10/10
Congratulations

1 // PROTAGONIST

Before reading the story brainstorm & guess:

What kind of person is the protagonist of the short story?

What does he look like? How old is he?

Write down at least 5 guesses below his name.

Mr. Leonard Mead



2 // SETTING

Read 75% of the first page until the passage „stunned by the illumination and then drawn toward it“ and answer the following questions together with your neighbour.

/ What does ‘he was alone in this world of A.D. 2052; or as good as alone’ mean?

/ What were all the other inhabitants of the city doing?

/ Why do you think was „crime ebbing“?

/ How is this fictional world different from our world today?

3 // SENSORY DETAILS

Read the passage again and highlight any references to sensory details that are relevant to you!

What can you see, hear smell, taste or touch?

Write them down next to the symbols below.



4 // STORY

Read the following passage:

*A metallic voice called to him: „Stand still. Stay where you are!
Don't move!“*

/ Who does the voice belong to?

/ What do you think will happen next?



5 // FINISH

Finish reading the story.

/ Sketch Leonard Mead's house in the midst of all the other houses of the city. How is it different?

/ Imagine sitting in the back of a robot police car. How would you feel?

6 // CONTINUE

How do you think will the story continue?

We are told that Leonard Mead was taken to the 'Psychiatric Centre for Research on regressive Tendencies'. What sort of place do you think this is? What will happen to Mead there?

Write a 200 words continuation of the story.

TEACHER'S NOTES

// Level

Grade 9-10. Obviously also depending on the students' language level. The questions concerning the 3 areas setting, sensory details & continuation could also be easily adapted to be more appropriate for different age levels.

// Aim/Purpose

#awareness for & learning descriptive language patterns involving the five senses.

#forecasting / predicting.

// Tips for the teacher

Bradbury's stories are particularly good for getting awareness for how language can involve various different senses as well as for learning to deal with foreshadowing elements. Besides learning new vocab for descriptions involving different senses, students are introduced to dystopian short stories. The session is placed within the larger topic "new technology" and its possible effect on humanity.