

**READING ACTIVITY by Nathália Fernandes Negrão (TEAM member). April 18, 2018.**



Picture adapted from Freepik.com

Students' ages: 14 - 17

Students' level: Intermediate

Assumptions: Students (Ss) are supposed to have already studied the Simple Past tense.

Stage	Time	Objective(s): Ss are supposed to	Material	Description
Pre-reading activity	10min	- Identify characteristics of the genre short story.	- Sheets of paper with exemplars of short stories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Teacher (T) asks Ss if they have already read any short stories and encourage them to talk about those short stories.</li><li>- Then, T shows Ss some short stories and explores the characteristics they share (plot, characters, etc.) by asking Ss the similarities among the stories and comparing them.</li></ul> <p>Suggestion of online data base of short stories: <a href="https://americanliterature.com/middle-school-short-stories">https://americanliterature.com/middle-school-short-stories</a></p>

While- reading activity	15 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify general information in the text;</li> <li>- Identify detailed information in the text.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sheet of paper with the short story;</li> <li>- Worksheet.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T gives Ss a sheet of paper with the short story "The Gift of the Magi" (available on <a href="https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Gift_of_the_Magi">https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The Gift of the Magi</a>) by O. Henry;</li> <li>- Ss read the short story and answer a questionnaire (see the Worksheet 1) about it;</li> <li>- T corrects the exercise by asking the Ss for the questionnaire answers and commenting on them.</li> </ul>
Post-reading activity	15 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Write a conclusion paragraph.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pieces of paper, pens, pencils, and erasers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T organizes Ss into groups.</li> <li>- Ss write a conclusion paragraph with a different end to the story (see Worksheet 2).</li> <li>- Then, they illustrate this different end in a drawing (see Worksheet 2).</li> <li>- Finally, each group presents their drawings to the whole class and read the paragraph they wrote to the story.</li> </ul>

## Worksheet 1



Picture adapted from Freepik.com

After reading the story “The Gift of the Magi”, answer the following questions:

1. Who are the characters of the story?

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2. Why did the woman sell her hair?

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3. Was the couple happy in the end of the story? Why?

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4. Why did the man seem so startled when he noticed that his wife cut her hair?

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5. Do you think that Della and Jim truly loved each other? Why?

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