

Title: Human Development in *The Lottery*

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Grade Level: 11-12

Subject/Content: English/*The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson

Summary of Lesson: Students study human development in the short story *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson. They focus on the concepts of a patriarchal society, the history of ritual, and public opinion.

Focus Question: What themes does *The Lottery* explore, and why was the public's initial reaction one of bewilderment?

Databases(s): *Student Resources In Context*, *LitFinder* (if available)

Procedures:

Steps/Activities by teacher:

1. Access and read with the students "On the Morning of June 28, 1948 and The Lottery" (citation below) in the *Student Resources In Context* database.
 - Jackson, Shirley. "On the Morning of June 28, 1948 and 'The Lottery'." *EXPLORING Short Stories*. Detroit: Gale, 2003. *Student Resources in Context*.
2. Explain to the students that they will be reading the short story discussed in the article. Tell them to keep the public's reaction and the author's comments in mind as they read.
3. Have the students read *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson in the school library or *LitFinder* (if available).
4. Use "The Stoning of Mistress Hutchinson: Meaning and Context in The Lottery" from the *Student Resources In Context* database to discuss meaning and context with students.
 - Oehlschlaeger, Fritz. "The Stoning of Mistress Hutchinson: Meaning and Context in 'The Lottery'." *EXPLORING Short Stories*. Detroit: Gale, 2003. *Student Resources in Context*.
5. Ask students why the public's initial reaction was what it was and explore how and why the reaction has changed.

Steps/Activities by student(s):

1. Access and read “On the Morning of June 28, 1948 and The Lottery” in the *Student Resources In Context* database.
2. Read *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson via the school library or *LitFinder* (if available).
3. Discuss meaning and context in *The Lottery* with classmates and teacher.
4. Explore the initial reaction to *The Lottery* and how and why reactions have changed.

Outcome: Students will learn human development while studying *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson. Their readings and discussions will lead them to exploring patriarchal societies, rituals, and the change of public opinion with time and custom.

Related Activities: Students study symbol and allegory in *The Lottery* by Shirley Jackson.