HUMANITIES ACTIVITY

A. READING GROUP INSTRUCTIONS *The Arrival*

*The Arrival* by Shaun Tan

*The Arrival* is an unusual book as there are only pictures and no words. You will need to look at the pictures very carefully so that you do not miss the important subtle details in the book.

You will read and discuss this book in reading groups. Each person in the group will take notes when reading the book and will report back to the reading group.

**Reading Roles:**
Plot: Jo
Characters: J
Visuals (light, shadow, drawings, close-ups, long shots, visualization of emotions): T

**Additional Reading Task:**
Each person has to choose one image that stands out for him/her in each chapter. Describe that image in great detail and write why it is important to the story. Why is it important for you? How does it relate to your reading role? Paste a copy of the images into your notes.

**READING GROUP 1 NOTES:**

**Chapter 1**

**Plot (Jo)**
The man packed and said goodbye to his family. He was planning to leave the country without his wife and daughter.

**Characters (J)**
Main Character
- Is in a sad mood because he has to leave his family to go to America
- Looks very determined though
- Wants to see if he can find a better life for himself and his family

**Visuals** (light, shadow, drawings, close-ups, long shots, visualization of emotions) (T)
The colour shading of this chapter is dark and depressed. The buildings in pictures look like the style of some failed states. The tea pot man was using shows his family has financial problems, so they migrate for the financial reasons.

**Which images did you choose in Chapter 1? Paste a copy of the images below with answers to the questions. (Each person should add one image per chapter)**
Describe that image in great detail and why it is important to the story. Why is it important for you? How does it relate to your reading role?
I think the picture is interesting because his wife and his daughter were left alone at home. The tail of the dragon represents the monster (fear) to the local people. It reflects the uncertainty of people’s future. (Jo)

This picture uses the dark tone to illustrate the depressed atmosphere. In addition, by comparing these majestic buildings on the two sides of the road and the small bodies of the family, the author demonstrate the status of helpless and hopeless in the characters. (T)
B. CREATE A CHARACTER BIOGRAPHY CHART

Character Biography Organizer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guiding Questions</th>
<th>Your detailed Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family info:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where is this person from?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job in home country:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hobbies:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why does he/she want to leave the home country?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does he/she know anyone in the new country?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How can he/she pay for the trip to the new country?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What are this character’s expectations about going to the new country?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Will his/her family go too?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does he/she take with him/her on his/her journey? Why?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How does the person feel before the journey? Why?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How does the person feel during the journey? Why?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How does the person feel after the journey? Why?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whom did he/she meet during the journey?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whom did he/she meet after the journey?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where does the character live after the journey?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. CREATE AN IMMIGRANT STORY FOR YOUR CHARACTER

Create a context
- Create a timeline for your character’s immigrant story.
- Choose a moment in that timeline as the context of your story.
- Add very specific events and details to that moment in time.

Story Overview
What?
List the main events in order.
Under each event, add five more details about that event.

Who?
Main character only? Other characters? Who? Relationship between characters?
Write as much detail about the other characters and their relationships.
**When?**
What is the timespan of your story? Give a date or dates. Which events on which days will appear in your story?

**How?**
1st person narrative? 3rd person narrative? Flashbacks? Thoughts? Conversations? Reading letters? Writing diary entries and speaking as they write?

Plan out how you are going to handle this.

**Why?**
Why do the events happen? Why do the people in the story do what they do, and how do they react? Give as much detail as possible here.

**D. DRAFT YOUR STORY AND ASK YOUR WRITING PARTNER TO GIVE YOU FEEDBACK.**

**E. EDIT YOUR STORY BASED ON YOUR PARTNER’S FEEDBACK.**

**F. READ THE STORY ALOUD TO THE CLASS.**
COMPARING STORIES ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

Hello Dear Enemy! Traveling book exhibit from the International Youth Library in Munich

Choose a Book from the Exhibit
Talk about the book you chose:
What is the book about?
Tell us about the story and the images.
Which feelings / emotions are evoked by the story / characters/ images?
Why did you choose the book?
How does the book present the idea of war, prejudice, violence, and/ or peace?

Presentation

TASK
You will create a short presentation about the book you chose. In your presentation, discuss the following:
How does the book you chose deal with issues of war, prejudice, violence, and peace?
How does this compare with The Arrival?
Use slides during your presentation. You might want to take photos of important images in both books.

PRESENTATION BASICS

Structure of Presentation
What makes a good presentation?
How should I structure this kind of presentation (a comparison)?
What should I consider when making slides for a presentation? What works? What doesn't work?

Giving the Presentation
What is the advantage of using note cards versus paper notes?
How can I engage the audience?
What should I think about concerning my body language during the presentation?
What should I think about concerning: volume of my voice, speed, and pronunciation?
Slides from a Student Presentation Comparing *The Arrival* with *Akim Court*

**Brief Summary about The Arrival**

A man left his daughter and his wife then went to a brand new "country."

He was helped by three different people that have been through violence and war.

**Brief Summary about Akim Court**

Witnessed a war and his family’s and friends’ death.

He escaped and found the refugees who were leaving.

They were rescued and then left this horrible place.
THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE ARRIVAL AND AKIM COURT

1. Different painting style
   - Akim Court: simple
   - The Arrival: detailed and realistic

2. Different storytelling style
   - Akim Court: telling the main character's story
   - The Arrival: listening to other people's stories

HOW DO THEY DEAL WITH WAR, VIOLENCE, PREJUDICE, AND PEACE?

AKIM COURT

- Show what a child's life will be like once he/she experiences a war/violence.
- What damage will be brought to them after they underwent these things. (Mental illness--->depression)

THE ARRIVAL

- Describe what wars/violences/prejudice will bring to different kind of people