

Name: _____

Date: _____

Hour: _____

"The Wise Old Woman"

Retold by Yoshiko Uchida

Pre-reading Activity:

Fill in the blanks below as you review the Prezi in class.

A **FOLK TALE** is a short _____ that has been passed down from _____ to generation. Folk tales are also known as fairy tales, _____, legends, _____, or tall tales.

FOLK TALES usually have:

- a character that represents one or more _____ (EX: kindness, greed, intelligence)
- _____ beings or plot events
- a _____ or message about life

PARALLEL EPISODES are _____ scenes in a piece of literature. The plot repeats, with minor _____, a character's _____ to a complication or conflict.

For example:

- In "The Three Little Pigs," the wolf appears to each pig in essentially the same way.

Reading Activity:

Respond to the questions below in **complete sentences** as you read "The Wise Old Woman" in class.

PG. 466

1. Why do you think the young lord decided that old people must be banished?

PG. 468

2. Why does the son decide to disobey the decree even though he might be punished?
3. Review lines 1-49. How are the young lord and the young farmer different?

PG. 471

4. What do you learn about the old woman from the way she solves the village's problems?

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5. Why do you think the old woman is able to solve all the problems created by Lord Higa's demands?
6. What lesson does the young lord learn by the end of the story?

Post-reading Activity:

*Respond to the questions below in **complete sentences** after you read "The Wise Old Woman."*

7. What parallel episodes can you find in "The Wise Old Woman?"
 8. Why would it be beneficial to build strong relationships with the elderly people in *your own* family?
 9. What is the universal theme or lesson of this story?
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Vocabulary Activity:

Read the summary of "The Wise Old Woman" below. Then, fill in the blanks with the correct vocabulary terms from the word bank provided.

WORD BANK

bewilderment

haughtily

deceive

arrogant

Many years ago, there lived an _____ lord who ruled over a village in Japan.

One day, he decreed that all the elderly villagers would be banished to the mountains and left there to die.

"I have no use for old people in my village," the lord said _____.

There was a kind farmer who lived in this village, a young man who had an elderly mother whom he loved very much.

"If only I could somehow _____ the cruel lord," the farmer thought.

Then one day, Lord Higa from the town beyond the hills threatened to conquer the small village. Lord Higa made one unreasonable demand after another, leaving the young lord, his wise counselors, and all the villagers shaking their heads in _____.

The young farmer knew that his elderly mother was wise and hurried to her for help. The wise old woman knew exactly what to do! She found ways for the villagers to acquiesce to Lord Higa's demands, thus saving the village from his wrath!