

ELA: Grade 5, Lesson 17, *Why the Dog Hates the Cat*

Lesson Focus: Continue the study of characters introduced in the first section of the fable and how a change in their situation begins to change them and the way they interact.

Practice Focus: Students will write a narrative from the point of view of the character Ming-li, retelling the events of the fable from the beginning to the end of today's section of reading.

Objective: Students will read *Why the Dog Hates the Cat* to learn that characters are impacted by their circumstances and these circumstances also change how characters interact with one another.

Academic Vocabulary: fortune, account, stark-mad, solemnly, delicacies

TN Standards: 5.RL.5.1, 5.RL.5.3, 5.RL.5.4, 5.WTTP.3

Teacher Materials:

- The Teacher Packet for ELA, Grade 5, Lesson 17
- Chart paper (or regular paper) for teacher graphic organizer started in previous lesson
- Marker or highlighter

Student Materials:

- 2 pieces of paper, pencil, a flat surface to write on
- marker or highlighter
- The Student Packet for ELA, Grade 5, Lesson 17 which can be found on www.tn.gov/education

Teacher Do	Students Do
<p>Opening (1 min)</p> <p>Hello! Welcome to Tennessee's At Home Learning Series for literacy! Today's lesson is for all our 5th graders out there, though everyone is welcome to tune in. This lesson is the second lesson in this week's series.</p> <p>My name is ____ and I'm a ____ grade teacher in Tennessee schools. I'm so excited to be your teacher for this lesson! Welcome to my virtual classroom!</p> <p>If you didn't see any of our previous lessons, you can find them on www.tn.gov/education. You can still tune in to today's lesson if you haven't seen any of our others.</p> <p>Today we will dig back into reading a Chinese fable titled <i>Why the Dog Hates the Cat</i>. But, before we get started and to participate fully in our lesson today, you will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 pieces of paper, pencil, a flat surface to write on • marker or highlighter • The Student Packet for ELA, Grade 5, Lesson 17 which can be found on www.tn.gov/education <p>I'll give you a few moments to get prepared for our time together! [Pause.]</p>	<p>Students gather materials for the lesson and prepare to engage with the lesson's content.</p>

<p>Ok, let's begin!</p>	
<p>Intro (3 min) [In preparation for filming, decide how you will show the content on the slide deck. You could choose to project the deck beside you, use screen capture software, or transfer the slide deck to chart paper or a white board].</p> <p>In lesson one, we started reading a Chinese fable by Norman Pitman called <i>Why the Dog Hates the Cat</i>. Do you remember what a fable is? [Pause.] Right! A fable is a short story, typically with animals as characters, and it teaches us a lesson. We call this lesson the <i>moral</i> or the story.</p> <p>Well, it looks like we have a few animals in <i>our</i> fable, and they are the only characters in the title. The dog <i>and</i> the cat. What were their names? [Pause.] Right! Blackfoot and Tabby.</p> <p>But, tell me: at the end of our previous lesson, did we find out WHY the dog hates the cat? [Pause.] No! We didn't. We hope to get a <i>little</i> closer to solving that mystery today!</p> <p>Before we start reading, I'd like for us to take a look at a student's independent practice from our first lesson. This will help us remember what we read <i>and</i> get our brains prepped to dig into today's learning. [Show slide L17-A1 and L17-A2.]</p> <p>Wow! That was terrific. I really like how this student made sure to include all these great thoughts, feelings, and actions of a few characters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at this one about Widow Wang: [Point to "surprised by the gift" in the student sample chart.] • And this one about Ming-li: [Point to "feels bad for his mom" in the student sample chart.] <p>Great work and I'm sure yours is too! Let's not forget though, I ALSO asked you to write a few sentences about what YOU thought was in Widow Wang's pot of boiling water.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remember, she placed the tiny, magical, golden beetle in the boiling water and waited...what was it? [Pause.] Yes! Three minutes. What did she have to do for those three minutes? [Pause.] Good memory! She had to say the name of the food she wanted over and over. I remember, she had a little rhyme. Oh, what food did she hope would be in the pot when she lifted the lid? [Pause.] Right...dumplings, those yummy little boiled balls of dough. Mm mm! 	<p>Students listen as the teacher creates interest in today's text.</p> <p>Students engage in a review of a student response from L16 independent practice.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • So, what did you write! [Pause.] That’s cool! Some people said that she found nothing, just the beetle at the bottom of the pot. Others said that she found money, magic dust, and even the old monk! That one is funny! Did you write down that she found the dumplings? [Pause.] I can’t wait to find out who is right! <p>I’m going to back up just a bit and reread a little of what we read in lesson 1, then on to the new stuff! We’ll start at the place where the old monk left, just after giving Widow Wang the golden beetle and telling her how to use its magic. She is alone and trying to cook up some delicious dumplings with nothing but a pot of boiling water and a magical golden beetle. Ready? Let’s go!</p>	
<p>Teacher Model/Read-Aloud (15 min) When the door was shut, the old woman hurriedly kindled a fire, boiled some water, and then dropped in the golden beetle, repeating these words again and again:</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“Dumplings, dumplings, come to me, I am thin as thin can be. Dumplings, dumplings, smoking hot, Dumplings, dumplings, fill the pot.”</p> <p>Would those three minutes never pass? Could the monk have told the truth? Her old head was nearly wild with excitement as clouds of steam rose from the kettle. Off came the lid! She could wait no longer.</p> <p>The mystery is killing you, isn’t it! Me too!</p> <p>Wonder of wonders! There before her unbelieving eyes was a pot, full to the brim of pork dumplings, dancing up and down in the bubbling water, the best, the most delicious dumplings she had ever tasted. She ate and ate till there was no room left in her greedy stomach, and then she gave the cat and the dog a feast that left them full to bursting!</p> <p>[Think aloud.] What? It worked? How awesome! Not just one dumpling, but a pot full to the brim.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What did Widow Wang do? [Pause.] Yes, she ate and ate and ate until there was no room left in her stomach. • What word did the author use to describe her stomach? [Pause.] Greedy! What does it look like to be greedy? [Pause.] Yes, like this. [Show face and hands that are greedy/grabbing/wanting more.] It’s like her stomach is 	<p>Students follow along, comprehending the text. They use teacher think-alouds and tips (e.g., definitions of words) to support their comprehension, and they think or write as directed in response to prompts and questions.</p> <p>Students will engage in a read-aloud of the <u>second</u> section of <i>Why the Dog Hates the Cat</i> to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to investigate the interactions of the major characters in this fable. • Further establish the problem and identify a solution: Widow Wang, Ming-li, and the pets are poor and hungry. They have a magic golden beetle that gives them food anytime they want it. • Set the stage for suspense for upcoming reading of the text.

saying more, more, more! Do you remember what Widow Wang compared her stomach to in our previous reading? [Pause.] Think back, you've got this...it was a metaphor comparing her stomach to, what? [Pause.] Good job! She said her stomach was as empty as the ocean. Well, not now. It's full of dumplings!

- Why do you think she ate so much? [Pause.] Right. Remember, she and her son, Ming-li have been very poor, and as a result, have no money to buy food. She was really, really hungry!
- When Widow Wang was full, who did she feed next? [Pause.] Yep, the cat Tabby, and the dog Blackfoot. We read that: *"she gave the cat and the dog a feast that left them full to bursting!"* What do you think this means? [Pause.] I agree. Like Widow Wang, the cat and the dog both were so hungry that this food felt like a feast and left them terribly full...so full that they felt like they could burst!
- Do you think that they are used to being so full of good food? [Pause.] No, I don't think so either. I bet they were so happy.

"Good fortune has come at last," whispered Blackfoot, the dog, to Tabby, the cat, as they lay down to sun themselves outside.

- Okay, so the animals can talk! That's interesting and helps us to recognize this story as a fable. Remember, these characters are supposed to teach us a lesson. Wonder what it could be? Hmmm?
- What did the dog, Blackfoot, mean when he said "Good fortune has come at last"? [Pause.] Nice job. When he refers to *fortune*, he means that luck has come their way. But, most importantly, he says that fortune, or luck, has *come at last*. Why do you think he feels this way? [Pause.] Yep, they've been waiting a long, long, time for this!

Mrs. Wang fairly danced for joy at the thought of her son's return and of how she would be able to feed him.

"Poor boy, how surprised he will be at our fortune—and it's all on account of his goodness to his old mother."

- It sounds like Widow Wang is really happy - the magical golden beetle worked! Who is she most excited to share this with? [Pause.] Yes! She can't wait to share it with her son, Ming-li, and finds happiness in the thought of feeding him a meal.

- Why do you think this would make her happy? [Pause.] I agree. They have been poor and hungry for a long time even though Ming-li continues to have no luck when he goes out in search of work. Maybe, Widow Wang feels like this is her way of trying to help, too. Even better...maybe this will solve their problems all together!
- Let's reread this sentence: "Poor boy, how surprised he will be at our fortune—and it's all on account of his goodness to his old mother." What do you think it means that their good fortune, or luck, is all *on account of* Ming-li's goodness to his old mother? [Pause.] Yes! *On account of* means *due to* or *because of*. So, let's replace the words *on account of* in this sentence with one of these examples: "Poor boy, how surprised he will be at our fortune—and it's all *because of* his goodness to his old mother."
- So, this tells us how Widow Wang feels about her son, but I'm curious to know what you think this says about Ming-li? Grab your paper and jot down your answer. I'm going to do the same. [Pause and jot down your answer.]
 - What did you say? [Pause.] I want to share what I wrote down. I said that this tells us that Widow Wang knows that it's only because of her son, Ming-li, that this good fortune has come to them. The gods have seen how good he is to his old mother. He cares for her and, before his pneumonia, worked hard so that she had food and clothing. Even now, he gets up every morning to go in search of work so that he can take care of her. Wow! Ming-li is a pretty great son!
- Alright, what do you think Ming-li is going to do when his mother shares the story of the monk's visit, the gift from the gods, and the golden beetle's magical meal of steaming dumplings? Hmmm? Let's find out!

When Ming-li came, with a dark cloud overhanging his head, the widow saw plainly that disappointment was written there.

[Think aloud.] Sounds like another day and no work to be found! Ah, man!

"Come, come, lad!" she cried cheerily, "clear up your face and smile, for the gods have been good to us and I shall soon show you how richly we have been rewarded." So, saying, she dropped the golden beetle into the boiling water and stirred up the fire.

Students jot down some quick thoughts.

- Oh boy, here we go! She was definitely trying to cheer him up and she thought this would do the trick!
- What do you think his expression is at this moment? Make it. [Brief pause.] I think Ming-li would look something like this! [Show an expression of disbelief and surprise.] Wonder if we're right? Hmmm? Let's find out.

Thinking his mother had gone stark mad, Ming-li stared solemnly at her. Blackfoot licked his hand comfortingly, as if to say, "Cheer up, master, fortune has turned in our favor." Tabby leaped upon a bench, purring like a sawmill.

- Well, we see that Ming-li thinks his mother had gone *stark mad*. What do you think *stark mad* means? [Pause.] Right! In this context, *stark* means completely, and *mad* means crazy. So Ming-li thinks his mother has gone completely crazy!
- So, were we right about the way Ming-li looked at his mother? [Pause.] Well, the text says that he looked at her *solemnly*. What do you think this means? [Pause.] Yes, *solemn* means serious and kind of sad. Think of it as really bummed out!
- What other clues does the author give us that tell us that Ming-li is feeling solemn? [Pause.] Right, we read that the dog, Blackfoot licked Ming-li's hand and even Tabby, the cat, leaped up next to him and purred. They had already filled their bellies with the dumplings from the magical golden beetle. They were trying to tell him that his mother was right and their luck had changed!
- So, I'm thinking that Ming-li looked at his mother in a different way than we originally thought. What do you think his expression would look like now that you know he looked at her *solemnly*? [Pause.] Yes, he might look like this! [Show an expression of seriousness and sadness.]
- Do you think he believed her now? Hmm? She's trying hard to convince him, isn't she? What do you think she'll have to do to make him really believe it's true? Let's find out.

Ming-li did not have long to wait. Almost in the twinkling of an eye he heard his mother crying out,

"Sit down at the table, son, and eat these dumplings while they are smoking hot."

[Think aloud.] So, Ming-li was just waiting, probably thinking his mother had lost her mind, then she told him to come to the table and eat? I bet he's thinking, "No way!"

Could he have heard correctly? Did his ears deceive him? No, there on the table was a huge platter full of the delicious pork dumplings he liked better than anything else in all the world, except, of course, his mother.

- And what was on the table? [Pause.] Yes! They were really there...his favorite pork dumplings...a huge platter full.
- We see that, “he liked better than anything else in all the world, except, of course, his mother.” Earlier we started to add to what we already know about Ming-li. So, what *more* does this sentence tell us about him? [Pause.] Yep, that he loves his mother most, even more than his favorite dumplings.

“Eat and ask no questions,” said the Widow Wang. “When you are satisfied I will tell you everything.”

Very soon the young man's chopsticks were twinkling like a little star in the song. He ate long and happily, while his good mother watched him, her heart overflowing with joy at seeing him at last able to satisfy his hunger. But still the old woman could hardly wait for him to finish, she was so anxious to tell him her wonderful secret.

- It looks like Ming-li didn't have any trouble digging into that huge platter of his favorite, steaming-hot, pork dumplings. The text says that he “*ate long and happily.*” Why do you think eating this meal changed his mood from solemn to happy? [Pause.] Of course, because, like his mother, the cat, and the dog, Ming-li was also very hungry. But, I wonder if he's also thinking that this magic must be real...that maybe their hunger is a thing of the past. Their troubles may be over! Hmm?

“Here, son!” she cried at last, as he began to pause between mouthfuls, “look at my treasure!” And she held out to him the golden beetle. “This little thing comes with a secret worth thousands to us.”

- Can you see him, right between bites, looking at what his mother has in her hands? [Pause.] I can, too!
- Why do you think that she says: “*This little thing comes with a secret worth thousands to us.*” Take a moment to jot down your answer. I'm going to write my answer down, too. [Pause and jot down your answer.]
 - What did you write down? [Pause.] Great answer! I want to share what I wrote down, too. I said “*This little thing comes with a secret worth*

<p><i>thousands to us</i>” means that Widow Wang believes that the golden beetle is worth so much to them, she says <i>thousands</i>, and that’s a lot! I also think that she is letting Ming-li in on the fact that the beetle comes with a <i>secret</i> - the secret of how to use it, for without the secret, the golden beetle doesn’t work...it’s just a little golden trinket.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think Widow Wang will share the beetle’s secret with her son, Ming-li? [Pause.] Let’s find out! <p>Ming-li fingered the trinket idly, still doubting his senses, and waiting impatiently for the secret of his delicious dinner. “But, mother, what has this beetle to do with the dumplings, these wonderful pork dumplings, the finest I ever ate?”</p> <p>“Beetle indeed! Listen and you shall hear a tale that will open your eyes.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of course, Ming-li is anxious to hear how this little beetle made his yummy dinner. Wonder what his mother is going to tell him? Hmmm? <p>She then told him what had happened, and ended by setting all of the left-over dumplings upon the floor for Blackfoot and Tabby, a thing her son had never seen her do before, for they had been miserably poor and had had to save every scrap for the next meal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why do you think the author added that Widow Wang set <i>“all of the left-over dumplings upon the floor for Blackfoot and Tabby, a thing her son had never seen her do before”</i>. [Pause.] Good! This only emphasizes that Widow Wang is very confident that this is real and that they no longer have to worry about being hungry. They, now, have enough to even share with the pets, Blackfoot and Tabby! • Do you think this action made Ming-li more confident in his mother’s story? [Pause.] I agree. I bet he’s feeling more and more convinced all the time. • What do you think happened afterwards? Did life for the Wang’s change? If so, how? What about Blackfoot and Tabby? Let’s keep reading! <p>Now began a long period of perfect happiness. Mother, son, dog and cat—all enjoyed themselves to their hearts' content. All manner of new foods such as they had never tasted were called forth from the pot by the wonderful little beetle. Bird-nest soup, shark's fins, and a hundred other delicacies were theirs for the asking, and soon Ming-li regained all his strength, but, I fear, at</p>	<p>Students jot down some quick thoughts.</p>
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<p>the same time grew somewhat lazy, for it was no longer necessary for him to work. As for the two animals, they became fat and sleek and their hair grew long and glossy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well, it sounds like life DID change, it changed a lot for Widow Wang, Ming-li, and the dog and cat! They weren't hungry anymore. • Did they stick to just eating dumplings from the pot with the magic golden beetle? [Pause.] Nope, they ate all kinds of <i>delicacies</i>. Do you know what that word, <i>delicacies</i>, means? [Pause.] Good job! Delicacies are fancy, and many times rare, expensive foods. They were really living it up! Shark-fin soup? Wow! • But, wait! What did we find out changed for Ming-li? [Pause.] Right! He regained his strength from all that good food, but he also got <i>lazy</i>! Why do you think he eventually became lazy? [Pause.] Yes, I think so, too! Ming-li knows that food is available at any time, and all he has to do is make the magic beetle do its magic. He doesn't have to <i>work</i> anymore, no need for money when the food keeps coming! What is there to work for? Oh no! • And, what about Blackfoot and Tabby? Did they change too? [Pause.] Yes, they changed just like Ming-li. They grew fat and sleek - they no longer needed to go out and hunt for food because Widow Wang and Ming-li give them all the scraps they could ever want! • Before we move on, do you think they were able to keep this all a secret? [Pause.] I'm sure they were proud to have such fine food and at any time they wanted it! If you were Widow Wang or Ming-li, would you want to share it with other people you knew? Hmmm? Let's see what they choose to do next! <p>But alas! The little family became so proud of their good fortune that they began to ask friends and relatives to dinner in order to show off their good meals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I just knew it...did you? What just happened? [Pause.] They couldn't keep the magic a secret. They were so proud that they had to share it. They invited people for dinner, just so they could show off their good food. • Do you think this was a good idea? [Pause.] I don't know, either! And yes, you're right - we'll have to wait until our next lesson to find out! 	
<p>Guided Practice (8 min)</p>	

[We recommend that you broadcast all notes from this section either in a slide or chart paper. Students will need these notes for their independent practice].

Let's take a few minutes, put our brains together, and get you ready for your independent practice. I'm going to ask you a few important questions. Grab your paper and get ready.

We'll start by looking at our character chart again, the one from lesson one. Let's focus on WHAT WE KNOW, the thoughts, feelings, and actions, of these two characters: Widow Wang and Ming-li. [Show slide L17-A1. Just focus on Widow Wang and Ming-li for this activity.]

- **We charted for Widow Wang:**
 - a widow
 - Ming-li's mother
 - used money on medicine for Ming-li when he was sick
 - poor and hungry
 - has a dog and cat
 - visited by old monk
 - monk gives her gift from the gods: magical golden beetle
 - surprised at the gift
 - told how to use the magical golden beetle when she wants food
 - used the magical golden beetle to cook "something" after the monk left her house
- **Then, we charted for Ming-li:**
 - son of Widow Wang
 - feels bad for his mom
 - poor and hungry
 - eldest, or oldest, son of Widow Wang
 - was very sick during the winter after trying to fix the roof of family's house
 - doesn't have a job
 - believes the gods will provide
 - looks for a job every day

Alright, that's some great information about both of these characters. What do you think we can add? [Pause.]

- **Let's add that Widow Wang:** [Add the following to your character chart.]
 - **Discovered that the golden beetle worked.**
 - **Convinced Ming-li that the golden beetle was real and magical.**
 - **Was happy to feed her son, the dog, and the cat.**

Students continue adding content to their character chart that they began in lesson one and then respond to guiding questions as

- Began using the beetle to make lots of fancy food.
- Was so proud of their new luck that she asked others to dinner.
- Then, let's add that Ming-li: [Adding the following to your character chart.]
 - Came home to tell his mother he didn't get a job - again!
 - Thought his mother was stark mad when she told him about the magic beetle.
 - Felt totally surprised when it worked! Yummy dumplings!
 - Listened to his mother's tale of how the magic beetle worked.
 - Ate a lot, with the dog and the cat, and eventually got lazy.
 - Was so proud of their new luck that he asked others to dinner.

preparation for independent practice.

CHARACTER	WHAT WE KNOW
Widow Wang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● a widow ● Ming-li's mother ● used money on medicine for Ming-li when he was sick ● poor and hungry ● has a dog and cat ● visited by old monk ● monk gives her gift from the gods: magical golden beetle ● surprised at the gift ● told how to use the magical golden beetle when she wants food ● used the magical golden beetle to cook "something" after the monk left her house ● <i>Discovered that the golden beetle worked.</i> ● <i>Convinced Ming-li that the golden beetle was real and magical.</i> ● <i>Was happy to feed her son, the dog, and the cat.</i> ● <i>Began using the beetle to make lots of fancy food.</i> ● <i>Was so proud of their new luck that she asked others to dinner.</i>

<p>Ming-li</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● son of Widow Wang ● feels bad for his mom ● poor and hungry ● eldest, or oldest, son of Widow Wang ● was very sick during the winter after trying to fix the roof of family's house ● doesn't have a job ● believes the gods will provide ● looks for a job every day ● <i>Came home to tell his mother he didn't get a job - again!</i> ● <i>Thought his mother was stark mad when she told him about the magic beetle.</i> ● <i>Felt totally surprised when it worked! Yummy dumplings!</i> ● <i>Listened to his mother's tale of how the magic beetle worked.</i> ● <i>Ate a lot, with the dog and the cat, and eventually got lazy - no need to work anymore.</i> ● <i>Was so proud of their new luck that he asked others to dinner.</i> 	
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Guiding questions lead students to consider the relationship and interactions between Widow Wang and her son, Ming-li, particularly as they change with the introduction of the food from the golden beetle.

[Show Slide L17-A2.] **Let's add quickly to the chart for Tabby the cat and Blackfoot the dog:** [Add the following to your character chart.]

- Tabby the cat: full and fat
- Blackfoot the dog: full and fat

Now, I'd like for us to think deeper about the *relationship* between Widow Wang and her son, Ming-li. Keep your paper right there and jot down your answers to my questions. Ready?

- From the beginning of the fable until now, how has Widow Wang felt about Ming-li? [Pause.]
- From the beginning of the fable until now, how has Ming-li felt about Widow Wang? [Pause.]
- What made their feelings change? [Pause.]
- How has this impacted the way they interact? [Pause.]
- Is there anything that could change the way they:
 - Feel about one another right now? [Pause.]
 - How they interact in the future? If so, what? [Pause.]

<p>Great job pulling it all together and thinking deeply! And even though we <i>still</i> didn't get to the moral of the story, I believe you're ready to move on to your independent work for today's lesson. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we'll get there next time!</p>	
<p>Independent Work (2 min) After our lesson is over today, I want you to take some time to complete a really cool activity. You can read along with me if you'd like. [Show slide L17-B.]</p> <p>Imagine that you are Ming-li. Retell the events in the story from <i>your</i> point of view. Start at the beginning of the story as you leave to look for work, and end where our text ended today. Remember, you, your mother, your cat, and your dog are all living a wonderful life full of good food from the magic of the golden beetle. And now, you and your mother have decided to share your wonderful food with friends and family members. Will you share the secret of the golden beetle, too?</p> <p>Make sure to include thoughts, feelings, and actions from Ming-li's point of view. You might even see things differently than the way the narrator portrayed it. Include good, descriptive words to help your reader see the story you are telling. Also, add some dialogue to make your story more interesting to read.</p> <p>Use your answers from today's questions and your character chart to support your writing.</p> <p>Keep up with your narrative story and make sure you have it for lesson three! I can't wait to see what you come up with!</p> <p>[Repeat prompt and directions 2x.]</p>	<p>Students write a narrative: retell the fable's events told from Ming-li's point of view.</p>
<p>Closing (1 min) I enjoyed reading more of this Chinese fable with you today. In our next lesson, we will continue trying to discover exactly <i>why</i> the dog hates the cat! Thank you for inviting me into your home. I look forward to seeing you in our next lesson in Tennessee's At Home Learning Series! Bye!</p>	