

Lessons for Echoes of October – Grade 5

This lesson is designed to align with the Ontario Language Curriculum (2023) and the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) cross-curricular competencies in Language Arts, Media Literacy, and Social Emotional Learning (SEL).



Grade Level:

Grade 5



Curriculum Connections

This activity supports:

- ♦ Ontario Language Curriculum:
 - - Reading: Understanding point of view and narrator’s bias (A2.1, A2.3)
 - - Writing: Using descriptive language and reflective writing (B1.3, B2.3)
 - - Media Literacy: Identifying bias, framing, and the purpose of a message (D1.2, D2.1, D2.3)
- ♦ TDSB Cross-Curricular Priorities:
 - - Social Emotional Learning (SEL): Encouraging emotional insight and personal reflection
 - - Well-being: Safe space for discussion of trauma-informed storytelling



Why Echoes of October Fits Into Your Year Plan

| Unit | Curriculum Tie | Echoes of October Use |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Narrative Voice & Perspective | Language – Reading (A2.1), Writing (B1.1) | Four characters narrate the same events differently (Rashomon effect) |
| Media Bias & Critical Thinking | Media Literacy (D1.2, D2.2) | Students compare real news articles and headlines from multiple outlets |
| Personal Memoir / Identity | Writing (B1.4), SEL | Draw and write about emotional or identity shifts since October 7 |
| Global Awareness / Conflict Studies | Social Studies / Language | Graphic novel contextualizes complex geopolitical issues for age-appropriate audiences |

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| Visual Literacy | Media Literacy (D3.1) | Use of symbols, color, and metaphor in illustrated and student-created content |
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Before & After October 7 – Reflection Worksheet (Grade 5)

This worksheet helps you think about how your feelings or thoughts may have changed because of events that happened on or after October 7. You will draw two pictures and use strong descriptive words to explain how you felt then and how you feel now.

Part 1: Draw and Describe

In the boxes below, draw two pictures. These can be scenes, symbols, or anything that shows how you felt.

← Before October 7 – How did you feel? What were you thinking about?

→ After October 7 – How do you feel now? What's changed in your world?

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Part 2: Use Descriptive Words

Around each drawing (or on this page), write at least 5 adjectives (describing words like 'worried', 'hopeful') and 5 adverbs (how you felt or acted, like 'quietly', 'suddenly').

Before October 7 – Adjectives:

Before October 7 – Adverbs:

After October 7 – Adjectives:

After October 7 – Adverbs:

Part 3: Reflect in Words

Write 3–5 sentences to answer this question:

“What have you noticed about yourself or the world since October 7? What do you hope for?”

Assessment rubric that aligns with the worksheet titled:

“Echoes of October – Grade 5: Before & After Reflection”

(File: Echoes_of_October_Integrated_Grade 5 Reflection Before and After.docx)

Assessment Rubric

Lesson: Before & After October 7 – Visual & Written Reflection

Grade Level: 5

Subjects: Language Arts, SEL, Visual Literacy

Curriculum Expectations Aligned:

| Area | Expectation |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Ontario Language Curriculum | A2.1 (Making inferences about point of view), B1.3 (Write with descriptive vocabulary), B2.3 (Revise for clarity), D1.2 & D2.1 (Analyze media framing) |
| TDSB SEL & Wellbeing | Recognizing and naming emotions; expressing personal response; reflection on world events |
| Visual Literacy / Media | Use of image and symbolism to express emotion (D3.1) |

Rubric – Visual and Written Reflection

| Criteria | Level 1 (Limited) | Level 2 (Developing) | Level 3 (Proficient) | Level 4 (Exceptional) |
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| Visual Representation of Emotion | Drawings show little connection to emotions or events | Drawings show some emotional ideas, symbols, or scenes | Drawings clearly express emotional difference between before/after | Drawings use powerful symbolism or composition to convey deep emotional insight |
| Descriptive Vocabulary (Adjectives/Adverbs) | Few or unrelated words used | Some relevant vocabulary used, but lacks variety or precision | 10 words used accurately, reflect tone and mood in each time period | Vocabulary is rich, diverse, and enhances emotional understanding |
| Written Reflection | Vague, off-topic or incomplete sentences | Answers question but lacks depth or clarity | Thoughtful, complete reflection with personal insight | Deep, empathetic reflection, personal voice, and maturity evident |
| Connection to Event / SEL Insight | Does not reference October 7 or emotional shift | Mentions October 7 and some effect | Explains impact of October 7 on self or world | Insightfully connects the event to emotional or social growth |

✓ Teacher Use Suggestions:

- Use for individual assessment or student-led reflection conference
 - Ideal for Language + Health cross-curricular unit
 - Can be scaffolded with vocabulary banks or group emotional word charts
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