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UNUSUAL NORMALITY

by Ishmael Beah • 2017

8th Grade

Lexia 800

FONT SIZE



Ishmael Beah was born in Sierra Leone, a country in Africa. He is a New York Times best-selling author of *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* and *Radiance of Tomorrow: A Novel*.

Skill Focus:

In this lesson, you'll practice analyzing how an author develops their point of view. This means determining what the author thinks and believes about a person or situation. It also includes examining how specific sections of the text develop the author's point of view (e.g. through actions, dialogue, or thoughts). As you read, take notes on the author's point of view about sharing his identity.

The narrator says he came to the U.S. with a passport, so he is an immigrant.

He did not come to the U.S. with a lot.

He was adopted when he was older and could fly on a plane alone.

(1) I came to New York City in 1998. I was seventeen.

I entered the United States with just a passport in my hand, because somehow the baggage that I'd checked when I boarded the flight from Ivory Coast (which was tattered in ways unimaginable) didn't make it.

I stood there at the luggage rack watching all these huge bags go by, and mine didn't come. This bag held all my possessions at this point: two pairs of pants and two shirts — one long-sleeved and one short. So I just started laughing, and I didn't even bother going to the lost-baggage section to claim it.

I just walked right out to meet my new adoptive mother, who was standing there with a beaming smile, waiting for me. And I explained to her what had happened, and we laughed some more.

(2) We left and went into Manhattan, and that evening we went to Kiku's. (After we had had Chinese food and a fortune cookie that said, "You're about to have new clothes.")



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ACTIVITIES

Annotation
Tool

Guiding
Questions

Assessment
Questions

Discussion



1. What is the author's point of view about sharing his background? ELA
 - A. He believes that sometimes it's fun to pretend to be a different person.
 - B. He believes that a person should be careful not to share anything with people.
 - C. He believes that in order to live the life he wants, he needs to hide certain things from others.
 - D. He believes that in order to live the life he wants, he should share his background with everyone.

NEXT

Commonlit Answers

Alana Trauth



Commonlit Answers:

Leader's Guide to Reading and Writing in a PLC at Work®, Secondary Daniel M. Argentar, Katherine A. N. Gillies, Maureen M. Rubenstein, Brian R. Wise, Michelle Garlick, 2021-12-21 Take an active role in achieving and sustaining literacy improvement in your PLC An essential leadership resource in the Every Teacher Is a Literacy Teacher series this valuable guide outlines how to drive literacy instruction in a secondary setting Learn how to support your collaborative teams gather and analyze data and ensure students can read and write at or beyond grade level This book offers leadership strategies for secondary literacy education that works Understand the challenges of leading literacy and the importance of using those challenges as opportunities for change Launch your journey to become a literacy leader with effective listening learning and active engagement Recognize the importance of data to new literacy focused initiatives reading instruction and writing strategies Establish professional development and differentiated instructional strategies for effective literacy instruction across academic disciplines Measure literacy growth and sustain a continual learning environment for all students Contents Introduction The Need for Literacy Instruction Chapter 1 Confronting the Challenges of Leading Literacy Chapter 2 Starting With Listening Learning and Leading With Action Chapter 3 Leading With Data Chapter 4 Leading Professional Learning Chapter 5 Leading Instruction Chapter 6 Leading Intervention Chapter 7 Measuring Growth and Sustainability Epilogue References and Resources Index

40 Strategies for Guiding Readers through Informational Texts Barbara Moss, Virginia Loh-Hagan, 2016-04-05 Gaining the skills to critically read a wide variety of informational texts is more important than ever for today's K 12 students This carefully crafted book offers 40 standards based instructional activities that teachers can immediately put to use in the classroom Clear rationales and step by step instructions are provided for implementing each strategy together with helpful classroom examples and suggested texts for different grade levels In a large size format for easy photocopying the book includes 44 reproducible worksheets Purchasers get access to a Web page where they can download and print the reproducible materials Prior edition title 35 Strategies for Guiding Readers through Informational Texts New to This Edition Now features more strategies including 16 that are completely new Explicit links throughout to the Common Core State Standards CCSS and other current standards Two additional strands of activities Reading Closely and Discussion Numerous new and revised reproducible tools all downloadable

K-12 Teacher Inquiry and Reflections Marjori Krebs, Cheryl A. Torrez, 2022-03-25 K 12 Teacher Inquiry and Reflections A Pathway to Enduring Transformation features the key components of a five semester graduate program with a focus on Reflective Practice MARP for K 12 classroom teachers In this program students focus on the study of their own teaching action research implementation and analysis reflective practice experiences and transformations teachers experienced because of their participation in this program The book is divided into three sections and an introduction The Introduction explains the historical foundations of MARP with an in depth exploration of the key elements of MARP featuring the voices of its founders

Section One features detailed explanations of action research PK teachers conducted followed by a long term reflection of their MARP experiences and its effects on them as teachers Section Two includes chapters written by teachers explaining how they thoughtfully transformed their teaching practices and their overall teaching philosophies In Section Three faculty who teach in this five semester graduate program describe their own collaborative teaching experiences for students key assignments course objectives classroom activities readings and discussions that are the foundation of the MARP experience for students

Closing the Literacy Gap Thomas G. Gunning, 2022-05-13 Packed with practical tools this book provides K 6 educators with a research based framework for accelerating the reading and writing growth of underperforming students Strategies and resources are included for building foundational skills comprehension and vocabulary engaging students with independent reading and periodicals developing writing and implementing tutoring and other extra supports The book gives special attention to helping those most affected by the literacy gap Black and Latinx students students living in poverty and students with reading disabilities It describes dozens of high quality intervention programs assessments activities and materials many of which can be accessed for free at the companion website Reproducible forms and handouts can be downloaded and printed in a convenient 8 1 2 x 11 size

Patterns of Analysis Holly Durham, 2025-12-29 In today's rapidly changing world the ability to think critically and analyze complex texts is more essential than ever Yet too often students struggle to bridge the gap between creative expression and analytical rigor *Patterns of Analysis* provides a revolutionary approach to teaching analytical reading and writing one that seamlessly integrates grammar and literary analysis to empower students to engage deeply with texts across genres Grounded in a descriptivist lens this book offers concrete entry points into analysis through grammar patterns helping students move beyond formulaic responses to develop their own insightful interpretations With adaptable lesson structures scaffolded invitations to think critically and strategies that encourage autonomy *Patterns of Analysis* ensures that every student whether in middle school or high school has the tools to confidently break down and articulate meaning in any text Designed for flexibility this resource supports educators working within existing curricula or developing their own offering clear guidance on lesson planning responsive instruction and meaningful discussion strategies Whether you're teaching fiction nonfiction or a blend of both this book will transform the way students approach reading and writing preparing them not just for academic success but for life Perfect for English educators curriculum designers and anyone invested in fostering analytical thinkers *Patterns of Analysis* is more than a teaching framework it's an invitation for students to see the world through a critical thoughtful lens

Family Policy Matters Karen Bogenschneider, 2024-02-23 This new edition captures the evolving post pandemic landscape of family policy the transformational changes that have occurred within contemporary families and the social economic and racial ethnic disparities that have grown across families The book draws on policies from around the globe to make an evidence based case for family policy and its contributions to families and to society Bogenschneider tackles a significant challenge of our

times the polarization of politics including why it occurs and how professionals can bridge the divide Beyond the basics the book provides best practices for turning analysis into action by drawing on cutting edge research and a point of view often overlooked in policy books the voice of policymakers themselves Imbued with hope yet fundamentally realistic Bogenschneider applies a relationship based and strikingly nonpartisan approach for those who want to make a positive difference for families whether they engage local policymakers in towns cities and counties state national lawmakers or decision makers in businesses nonprofits and philanthropy Accompanied by updated web based teaching materials and a family impact toolkit this is core reading for undergraduate and or graduate courses in family or social policy taught in human development and family studies psychology counseling social work sociology public policy political science and education It is also essential reading for professionals and policymakers interested in pursuing better public policy for families in all their diversity across the lifespan

Importance Of Emotional Intelligence Alana Trauth,2021-03-27 Emotional intelligence refers to the ability to identify and manage one s own emotions as well as the emotions of others Emotional intelligence is generally said to include at least three skills emotional awareness or the ability to identify and name one s own emotions the ability to harness those emotions and apply them to tasks like thinking and problem solving and the ability to manage emotions which includes both regulating one s own emotions when necessary and helping others to do the same This book may give you

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