



## Lesson Plan

# “One Day” Writing Project

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## Summary

1. **Subject(s):** Writing, Language Arts
2. **Objective:** Students will use the “One Day” video as an anchor to describe their experience while using imagery, dialogue, and character development.

**Key Takeaway:** This lesson is the beginning of many to encourage students to be active citizens in their learning community.

5. **Time Allotment:** 90-120 minutes, 1-2 work periods

## Directions

- a. Directions:

Begin by explaining that you will show the video a few times throughout the first class period. For the first time through the video, ask students to just watch it and try to identify each act of kindness that took place.

Once the video is finished, lead a class discussion to identify the order of events. Each event at face value is a great starting point, as students will observe smaller events in the background when they watch it again.

After coming up with the list of events, advise students to watch again, but to now try to notice things that are happening in the background that led to each act of kindness. Lead a discussion on this after as well. Barring time (really depends on the level of discussion that has happened in class), explain the project.

The objective of the project is for each student to identify with one of the characters in the video. They are to provide a backstory (character development), details on what they were doing that day (sensory details), and a detailed depiction of the act of kindness they had experienced, and then ultimately passed forward onto someone else. Once your students understand, play the video a third time. This time for students to identify which character they want to use for the project.



## Notable Background Observations (Teacher Guide)

These are points that I highlight in the video if students have missed them. I use these points after watching the video twice.

- The boy is clearly with the two girls skateboarding. I focus on how it appears that he is embarrassed when he falls, but he has the look of gratitude as he gets up with the help of the construction worker.
- I pause the video when the boy is faced with a decision. He sees the elderly woman with groceries, but his friends are clearly waving at him to have him join them again. Regardless, he chooses to pay it forward with the elderly woman.
- When the man buys a hotdog for the man (who appears to be) without a home, the hotdog vendor donates a bottle of water as well.
- I make sure to pause the video of the girl's facial expression when the man gives her the cellphone. I ask how many students have experienced that, "Oh my gosh, thank you! You've saved me from \_\_\_\_." I ask students what would happen at home if they had lost their cellphones.

### **\*\* This is the one I spend most time on. \*\***

- As the girl leaves her with her cellphone, there is a waitress in the background getting yelled at by her boss. Meanwhile, there is another woman who is eating alone while appearing to be watching longingly toward the family who is embracing and hugging.
  - There are two big events at the same time:
    - The waitress is being threatened to be fired.
    - The woman appears to be lonely for some reason.
  - This is where I have students really contemplate and discuss what's going on. Do you believe the waitress was at fault from what we have seen? Or was the manager very stressed out and took it out on her?
  - The woman clearly looks lonely. Was she supposed to be on a date but got stood up? Is she missing someone while watching the family? What could be some reasons why she appears to be feeling melancholy?
- Then as the video progresses, we see the woman leave a very large tip. The waitress then gives a glass of water to the original construction worker. Some students miss this point so it may be beneficial to highlight that it's the same guy.
- The last point that I show is the facial expression of the manager. As the waitress gives the man a glass of water, you can clearly see that the manager is quite pleased with what she had witnessed.  
**\*Even seeing acts of kindness can make a positive impact on others\***



## Overview/Planning Guide

\*\* Please pick one of the characters in the "One Day" video \*\*

Criteria that must be included:

- **Introductory Paragraph** Introduce your character in such a way that you are able to explain what kind of life the character you chose has. (When I read it, I will know which person you chose, and the backstory of him/her as well.)

- **Middle Paragraph**- What was going on in your life at the time the video was produced? At the very moment that you are highlighted in the clip, what is happening in your life? (*What brought you to the moment that you were filmed?*)

- **Conclusion Paragraph**- What happened *after* the moment that was highlighted in the video? What happened *after*? *Please pick one of the characters in the video provided below.*





## Introduction

*Guided Questions/Prompts to help:*

\*Name- What is your (new) name? \_\_\_\_\_

\* Age- How old are you? \_\_\_\_\_

\* Job/Lifestyle- What do you do for a living, and what is your life like?--- Go in detail in this.

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\* Background- Provide a backstory as to who you are, and what events have happened in the past to help you become who you are today.- This is important for readers to fully understand who you are while you are telling this story.

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\* Feelings- How were you feeling during this day?-- This is your transitional sentence(s) that goes into the middle paragraph.

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## Middle

*\* Describe the scene. (Remember **sensory details**. Be descriptive with visual language!)*

What was the weather like? \_\_\_\_\_

What time of the day was it? \_\_\_\_\_ What season was it? \_\_\_\_\_

**Include 5 senses** *\*Some may not be applicable depending on the character you choose\**

*What did it smell like?*

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*Taste like?*

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*Feel like?*

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*Sound like?*

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*Look like?*

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*\* You must answer why you were at the place when the video took place. What brought you there at that very moment?*

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## Conclusion

*\* Why did you do an act of kindness after someone had done something nice for you?*

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*\* How did you feel afterward?*

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*\* How did the event impact you?*

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*\* What was life like afterward?--- Make up a storyline of what your character's life was like after that event. It may not even be THAT different.*

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*\* You must answer why you did what you did. Why did you do an act of kindness after someone had done something nice for you?*

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