



Orientation

Ensure that you have read about using the plan in the Program Guide.

Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

The silence is ominous. Danny tries the door, expecting it to be locked, but the handle turns. Every day when Danny runs past the apartment building, Mr. P is sitting on the stoop, talking to passersby. One day, he's not there, so Danny investigates.

Introduction

Foster interest and activate the student's background knowledge. Be concise – focus on motivating and involving the student. Encourage prediction by using the text and illustrations on the cover of the book. Discuss new vocabulary and remind the student to use the glossary (when applicable). Also remind the student to ask him/herself questions before, during and after the reading.

Read the part of the blurb in italics. Ask the student why it is in italics (it's a direct quote from the book) and what feelings it creates. Explain that the first sentence is an example of descriptive language, which is used to help the reader picture the scene or to stimulate particular feelings.

Discuss the illustrations on the front and back covers. Have the student predict why Mr. Pancini might not be there. Write down the student's predictions. Ask the student to choose the prediction that is most likely, based on what they have learned from the cover and their own experience.

Conferencing

Check how well the student reads

When you are conferencing, the student reads all or part of the book to you. Then:

- praise, pause, and prompt appropriately;
- check for accuracy (by counting mistakes) and fluency;
- check for understanding by using one or more of the following methods:
 - asking the comprehension questions provided and any others that seem necessary;
 - asking the student to retell the story in their own words;
 - asking questions about and discussing aspects of the story, such as the theme, plot, main ideas, sequence and characters;
 - encouraging the student to confirm the predictions they made during the orientation.

Decide what the student does next

Next recommend that the student:

- practices some more on the same book, with or without the audio;
- completes one of the activities provided that is related to the book;
- practices with another book from the same level; or
- is assessed for promotion to the next level.

Comprehension questions

1. How does Danny know so much about his neighborhood?
2. Describe Mr. P's apartment.
3. What are some examples of descriptive language in the story? What do they mean?
4. If you were Danny, what would you have done? Why?
5. Who do you think is the most interesting character in this story? Why do you think that?

Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. He runs around it every day.
2. Answers will vary but may include: it's upstairs, dark, and silent; one room has a lot of junk and smells of old things.
3. Answers will vary but may include: "a wave of laughter ripples"; "his heart is pumping a million miles an hour"; "The silence is ominous."
4. Answers will vary.
5. Answers will vary.

Supporting English Language Learners

The following are suggestions for optional lessons to take with your English language learners. See the overview chart in the Program Guide for a summary of the text features of this book.

Purpose

Using a dictionary to find the meaning of unfamiliar words

Introduce the concept and practice

Using a dictionary extends the student's vocabulary and gives them a skill that they can use independently.

When the student is familiar with the book, skim through the text together and identify any words that they don't understand. List them on paper. The list may include "neutral" (page 2), "ominous" (page 5), "erratic," and "recluse" (page 7). Together, look at the first word and help the student to predict its meaning from its context in the story, write their prediction on the list, then help them to find the word in the dictionary. Explain to the student that if there is more than one definition, they need to choose the one that makes the most sense. Ask the student to write the most appropriate definition next to their prediction. Repeat this exercise with the other words.





Name: Date:

Introduction: The silence is ominous. Danny tries the door, expecting it to be locked, but the handle turns. Every day when Danny runs past the apartment building, Mr. P is sitting on the stoop, talking to passersby. One day, he's not there, so Danny investigates.

Errors M S

“Hey, Danny. Do you still squeak like a _____ or what?” Danny sighs. _____ Brad – again. A wave _____ laughter ripples up and _____ the bus – contagious. Danny _____ at the injustice of _____. His voice hasn’t broken _____, and he’s shorter than _____ other guys, but that’s _____ his fault. “You just _____ to be patient,” his _____ keeps telling him. “You’ll _____ up, wait and see.” Danny _____ she’s right. He’s _____ a teenager and thinks _____ about time he sounded _____ one. Danny pulls down _____ cap and looks out _____ window. He keeps the _____ on his face neutral _____ thinking about the activities _____ enjoys, like running. Danny _____ every day, so he _____ his neighborhood well. He _____ the location of each _____ in the sidewalk, when Mr. Pancini reads his mail, and what time Mrs. Malone leaves for the laundromat.

Accuracy Chart (Exact word replacement only)

Table with 3 columns: Words Entered, Score, Level. Rows: More than 11 correct (Independent), 10 or 11 correct (Instructional), Fewer than 10 correct (Frustration).

Errors

M = Meaning (makes sense) ____ S = Syntax (sounds right) ____

Heard () Seen () Unseen ()

Comments:



Danny's tired of Brad hassling him. It's not his fault his voice hasn't broken yet and he's shorter than the other guys. His mom keeps telling him not to worry. "You'll catch up," she says. Danny thinks about activities he enjoys instead, like running, which he does every day after school.

Later that afternoon when Danny's out running, he sees Mr. Pancini on the stoop of his apartment building sorting through his mail. Mr. Pancini calls to him. "I have a letter from Italy." Danny waves but doesn't stop. He'll talk to Mr. P about the letter on the way back. His heels start to hurt, and he wishes he had better shoes.

His mom says she can't afford to keep buying new running shoes, so Danny wears each pair until they completely disintegrate. Nearly an hour later, Danny runs back past Mr. P's apartment, but Mr. P's not there. Danny frowns. Mr. P's always there when Danny's heading back from his run.

Danny keeps running, but he can't stop thinking about the space on the stoop where Mr. P should've been. He decides to run back and check on him. He buzzes Mr. Pancini's apartment. There's no reply. He's wondering what to do when a woman comes up behind him. Her name is Elaine.

She lives down the hall from Mr. Pancini. The door to Mr. P's apartment is unlocked, so they step inside. There are no lights on, and it's completely silent. Danny goes into a small room and falls over something. It's Mr. Pancini lying on the floor, his fingers curled around the handle of a suitcase. Elaine calls 911.

Mr. P's taken to hospital. Danny reads in the newspaper that Mr. P has inherited enough money to spend a few months in Italy. Mr. P buys Danny some new running shoes to express his thanks. That summer, Danny grows four inches. He wins a road race, his voice breaks, and Brad stops hassling him. Danny tells his mom she was right about his needing to be patient.





Name: Date:

Words can be found in these directions:



The letter in each square can only be used in one word.

t	c	o	m	p	l	e	t	e	l	y	a	g	a	i	n
o	c	e	n	o	u	g	h	s	d	w	i	n	d	o	w
g	e	r	r	e	a	c	h	t	i	p	u	l	s	e	r
e	x	a	e	o	n	o	f	r	s	f	e	e	t	s	e
t	p	s	l	a	u	o	u	i	i	b	e	a	b	o	p
h	r	a	i	r	t	t	t	d	n	a	l	n	e	m	o
e	e	v	r	l	e	u	e	e	t	l	s	d	c	e	r
r	s	w	o	t	e	a	r	i	e	a	e	b	a	t	t
p	s	g	a	i	i	n	d	e	g	n	p	u	u	h	e
a	i	n	n	v	c	c	c	y	r	c	r	i	s	i	r
i	o	o	u	t	e	e	l	e	a	e	o	l	e	n	r
r	n	s	h	o	u	l	d	e	t	r	m	d	l	g	i
d	i	f	f	e	r	e	n	t	e	n	i	i	i	h	g
d	e	s	c	r	i	p	t	i	o	n	s	n	k	i	h
b	e	s	u	r	p	r	i	s	e	d	e	g	e	m	t
p	a	t	i	e	n	t	a	p	a	r	t	m	e	n	t

Words to find:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| again | building | enough | pair | silence |
| already | completely | expression | patient | something |
| and | creature | feet | promise | stride |
| apartment | description | him | pulse | surprised |
| article | different | like | reporter | together |
| balance | disintegrate | not | right | voice |
| be | each | of | route | wave |
| because | else | out | should | window |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells what activity Danny enjoys.





Where Are You, Mr. P.?

Board Game Activity

STAGE 6

- ★ Spin the numbered spinner.
- ★ The highest number starts.
- ★ You need to spin the exact number to move onto the END square.

START
You're tired of Brad hassling you about your squeaky voice and your height.

1

2

3

19

20

21 You read in the paper that Mr. P. has inherited enough money to spend a few months in Italy. Go on to 24.

22

4 Your mom tells you to be patient. Go back to 1.

18 Mr. P. is lying on the floor and you fall over him. Miss a turn.

END
Your voice breaks, and Brad stops hassling you. You tell your mom she was right about your needing to be patient.

23

5 You're out running and you see Mr. Pancini. Spin again. Go forward that number.

17

30

24

6

16

29

25 Mr. P. buys you a pair of running shoes to express his thanks. Spin again. If you spin a 3 or a 4, go on to 29.

7

15 You and Elaine step inside Mr. P.'s apartment. Go forward four spaces.

28

27

26 You win a road race. Name two numbers. If you spin one of them, go on to 30.

8 Your heels hurt, and you wish you had better shoes. Spin again. Go back that number.

14

13

12

11 You run back past Mr. P.'s apartment, but he's not there. Go back four spaces.

10

9



