

# COMMON THEMES & ARCHETYPES

The same, recurring themes are often simply paraphrased.



## LESSON TOPIC: **Adversity**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- People benefit from adversity.
- People learn more from losing than from winning.
- People learn more from difficulty/ from ease.
- People learn from their efforts even if their goals are not reached.
- Humor helps in difficult situations.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Motivation**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- Power motivates people.
- Change motivates people.
- Emotion should/should not be involved when making important decisions.
- People should determine the motivation for someone's actions before passing judgment on the person.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Success**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- People put too much stress on winning.
- People can be successful and ethical at the same time.
- Persistence is more important than ability in achieving success.
- Optimism is more important than realism in achieving success.
- Idealism is more important than practicality in achieving success.
- Success is a result of choices/of luck.
- People's expectations of themselves affect their success.
- People can/cannot be successful with low expectations.
- It is better to have low expectations and meet them/high expectations and miss them.
- People have to aim for perfection in order to be successful.
- Success results from improvement to one's best attribute or skill.
- People succeed by repeating their past behaviors.
- People are more likely to be successful by compromising/by being inflexible.
- Memories help people be successful.
- People are more successful when they are under pressure.
- All successes create new challenges.
- All significant inventions and findings result from concentrating on a single area.
- Success can be disastrous.
- It is important to sometimes take risks.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Happiness & Self-Satisfaction**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- It is better to accept one's lot in life/to strive for more.
- The pursuit of a goal makes a person happy.
- A job one likes is better than a job that pays well.
- Knowledge can be a burden.
- Fame creates/cannot create happiness.
- Having options creates/does not create happiness.
- Change leads to happiness.
- Rules and restrictions are necessary for happiness.
- A person can be too enthusiastic.
- Happiness is a choice.
- It is better to act quickly/be patient.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Individuality**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- People need to compare themselves to others in order to appreciate what they have.
- It is more important to be different/to fit in with others.
- People let the opinions of others affect their success.
- People put too much value on the opinions of others.
- A person's identity is innate/created.
- People over emphasize individual accomplishments.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Creativity & Originality**

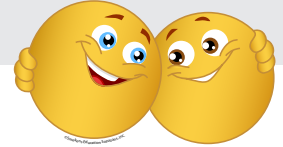
### THEME STATEMENTS:

- Planning can have a negative effect on creativity.
- Creativity is as important today as it was in the past.
- It is better for a person to imitate others/be original.
- It is better for society when people imitate others/are original.

# COMMON THEMES & ARCHETYPES

The same, recurring themes are often simply paraphrased.

Lessons  
about **OTHERS**



## LESSON TOPIC: **Friendship & Collaboration**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- It is easier to make friends today than in the past.
- People are more successful when they combine their efforts with others.
- Groups are more successful when they pursue a common goal/individual goals.
- Competition results in success.
- Collaboration results in success.
- Compromise is/is not the best solution.
- People can learn from a group that shares a commonality.
- People can benefit from following the crowd/having their own ideas.
- People get along better with others like/different than them.
- It is wise to be trusting/suspicious of others.
- People help others for selfless/selfish reasons.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Authority & Leadership**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- People need to listen more to people who are older and experienced.
- People function best with/without a leader.
- People should/should not question those in authority.
- National leaders should/should not be judged differently than others.
- Society should limit people's exposure to certain forms of information.
- Censorship is never/sometimes okay.
- Leaders are/are not always the best people for the job.
- Established rules are realistic for guiding people in real-life scenarios.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Society & Community**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- People should be more concerned about the common good.
- Criticism is necessary for the progress of society.
- Discipline is a necessary component of freedom.
- People should be more private about some parts of their lives.
- People pay too much attention to details.

# COMMON THEMES & ARCHETYPES

The same, recurring themes are often simply paraphrased.

Lessons about **LIFE**



## LESSON TOPIC: **Morality and Ethics**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- People learn from other people's flaws and mistakes.
- People can be successful and ethical at the same time.
- A school is responsible for teaching morals and ethics.
- Society's common beliefs are more likely to be right/wrong.
- It is okay/never okay to be disloyal.
- It is okay/never okay to lie.
- It is okay/never okay to deceive someone.
- It is okay/never okay to be rude.
- Acting is a normal part of life.
- There are always two sides of an issue.
- People should tolerate all opinions/speak out against those that are wrong.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Media and Entertainment**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- Reality entertainment is beneficial/harmful.
- The media influences what people find important.
- Society should/should not limit people's exposure to certain forms of entertainment or information.
- Society should/should not admire celebrities.
- The media has too much of an effect on some people.
- Photographs reflect reality/the photographer's viewpoint.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Progress and Technology**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- Progress eliminates problems/creates new ones.
- Technology causes society to neglect other important areas.
- There are times that avoiding technology is beneficial.
- The abundance of information available today makes the world easier/harder to understand.
- Modern advancements have made life easier than what it was in the past.
- The world is getting better/worse.
- Criticism is necessary for progress.
- Society has become too concerned with money.

## LESSON TOPIC: **History and Tradition**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- All traditions should/should not continue.
- New ideas are better than the ideas of the past.
- The past influences the present and future.
- History helps people be successful and avoid failure.
- New solutions are always necessary.
- Modern advancements make life easier than what it was in the past.
- Society is too materialistic today compared to in the past.
- Creativity is as important today as it was in the past.
- It is better for society when people imitate others/are original.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Decision-Making**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- Emotions should/should not be involved when making important decisions.
- Impulsive decisions are as good as deliberate decisions.
- People should/should not change their decisions.
- Having many options creates happiness.
- Small decisions have big consequences.
- People should trust in common sense/question it.
- Negative consequences are equally possible for good choices as for bad choices.

## LESSON TOPIC: **Education and the Arts**

### THEME STATEMENTS:

- A school is responsible for teaching morals and ethics.
- The arts teach people about the world.
- People learn from fictional characters or stories.
- Practical skills are deemed too important.
- People learn more in school/out of school.
- The arts are essential to education.
- People learn something from every experience.
- People learn more from themselves/from others.