Lungteng
Book 6 Lesson 6

When the Child Becomes the Parent

National Overseas Chinese Experimental Senior High School
（國立華僑實驗高級中學）
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圖片取自<http://www1.jysld.com/finance/finObjective.jsp>
Introduction

- Text Difficulty Level: Intermediate
- Mode(s) of Writing: Narrative
- Teaching Focus:
  - Reading—To train students how to grab the key points from the story through graphic organizers, summary, and so on.
  - Writing—To encourage students to write by utilizing their own experiences or thoughts.
Teaching Procedure

- Reading aloud—read the story aloud paragraph by paragraph and ask students questions regarding the story at the same time.
- Group discussion and report through graphic organizers
- Asking students to write the summary of the story and their response to the story.
- Asking students to pick out one of the problem-solving questions to write on.
I. Raising Students’ Awareness

Q1: How do you get along with your grandparents? Do you live with their grandparents?

Q2: Imagine if your grandparents passed away, what reactions might your parents have? What kinds of feeling might you have? Would it thus influence your ways of life?

Q3: What does the title “When the Child Becomes the Parent” imply?
II. Presenting the Text
Reading Aloud

Directions:

1. Pick out some key points or ideas from the lesson when preparing the lesson.

2. The teacher reads the story aloud for students. He/she could add the emotion to the reading material so as to help students learn where the important clues are.

3. As the teacher reads the parts worthy of attention to, then he/she could pause for students to think or instantly offer some questions for them to discuss.
At 76 my mother was, for all practical purpose, dead. Her decline began shortly after my father died of cancer. She had been married to him for more than 50 years. Theirs was a fairytale union: blessed with wonderful looks, good friends, enough money, and a love that seemed to deepen through the years. But my father’s sudden illness and then death damaged my mother’s soul. She would never cry, she said, because once she started, she would never be able to stop. Instead, she turned her grief inward and inflamed it with alcohol and a subconscious desire to die.
Questions:

Q1: Why does the author say that her mother was dead at the age of 76?

Q2: Do you envy this kind of marriage? Why?

Q3: What does it mean “my father’s sudden illness and then death damaged my mother’s soul”?

Q4: If you were the grandmother and your husband passed away, what would you do then?
Graphic Organizers

GO1—Story Map

Please fill in the information you get from the story “When the Child Becomes the Parent.”
When the Child Becomes the Parent

I. The Transformation of the Author’s Mother

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BEFORE living with her daughter</th>
<th>AFTER living with her daughter</th>
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<tbody>
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</table>

II. How does the author and her family help her mother?

III. What does the author and her children learn or get from taking care of her mother?

Author

Children
The author’s mother suffered from her beloved husband death. In order to help her mother, the author decided to invite her mother to live with them. Please use your own words to write down the transformation of the author’s mother **BEFORE** and **AFTER** living with her daughter.

Remember: you have to write in complete sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BEFORE</strong> living with her daughter</th>
<th><strong>AFTER</strong> living with her daughter</th>
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Please use your own words to write down the transformation of the author’s mother in complete sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before</th>
<th>After</th>
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</table>
| She was addicted to alcohol.  
She stayed in her apartment and didn’t want to go outside because she was afraid of breaking her hip.  
She ate unhealthy food, such as cigarettes, coffee, and ordered a nearby deli. | She quit drinking and ate normally.  
She got along with people again.  
Her sense of humor has returned.  
She made an effort to recover.  
She tried to care of her grandchildren.  
She took |
<table>
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<td>She was addicted to alcohol.</td>
<td>She quit drinking and ate normally.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She stayed in her apartment and didn’t want to go outside because she was afraid of breaking her hip.</td>
<td>She got along with people again.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Please use your own words to answer the following question in complete sentences.

How does the author and her family help her mother?
How does the author and her family help her mother?

1. Care much about her mother and try their best to make her think in her mind.
2. Take her mother out of her apartment to be bathed in the sunlight.
3. Regulate her mother’s diet to make her healthy.
4. Make the members of her children spread to her mother and give her heart warmer.
5. They give their mother a canary and a dog as pets to keep her company.

Take her mother out of her apartment to be bathed in the sunlight.

Regulate her mother’s diet to make her healthy.
What does the author and her children learn or get from taking care of her mother?

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<td>Children</td>
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B6L5 When the Child Becomes the Parent

Please use your own words to answer the following items in complete sentences.

What does the author and her children learn or get from taking care of her mother?

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|        | *With this experience, the author learns that she should give her mother much more love.*

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|          | *They learn that they should be more considerate and care for others. What’s more, everyone should stand in other people’s shoes.*

Score: 92
What does the author and her children learn or get from taking care of her mother?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>With this experience, the author learns that she should give her mother much more love.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>They learn that they should be more considerate and care more for others. What’s more, everyone should stand in other people’s shoes.</td>
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Summary

Directions:

1. Have students write down the summary after they read the story.

2. Remind students the key points they could convey in the summary: who, what, where, when, why, how.
Response

Directions:

Have students write down their feelings or anything they have in their mind after they read the story.

After reading the story *When the Child Becomes the Parent*, please write your own RESPONSE to it.
III. Bridging Practice to Writing
Problem Solving

Directions: Give students one problem and ask them to write down how they might solve it.

Topic 1: When you become old, would you prefer to live alone or live with your children? What are your reasons?

Topic 2: When your parents become old and get sick, what would you do? Please state your reasons.
Peer Conference

Directions:

1. Ask students to exchange their writings with their partners.

2. Have students to give their questions and feedbacks to their partners.

3. Ask students to explain what they have written about to their partners.
Examples—

1. I like your ____________________.
   The reason is ____________________.

2. I don’t understand ____________________.
   Why?
After the author’s father was dead, her mother became increasingly discouraged. She was addicted to alcohol and ate unhealthy food. In addition, she often slept at odd hours. Not until a major accident occurred to her mother did the author determine to help her mother release from the lonely apartment. The author and her family regulated her mother’s diet, made her quit all the bad habits, kept accompanying her, and cheered her up. Gradually, her mother was in better mood and looked on the bright side. The author consequently felt that touching is a healing phenomenon. Even if a person is in very bad mood, staying with him and comforting him would change him into an optimistic man.
My parents always take care of me. They make money and work hard. Though they feel tired when they go home, they still deal with my things. For example, when I feel hungry, my mom, will cook something for me or my father will buy food for me. Sometimes when I get sick, they will take me to the hospital.

Because my parents are great, we have to take care of them when they are getting old. We also have to give much more love to them. So we will have a wonderful family.
Students’ Works — Problem Solving

Topic1: When you become old, would you prefer to live alone or live with your children? What are your reasons?

If I become old, I would like to live with my children instead of living alone. Why do I prefer to live with my children rather than living alone? There are some reasons for me to think so. First of all, I could stay with my children because I need others’ company. In this way, I would not feel lonely. Moreover, I could take care of my children and they could also look after me. And we could chat with each other. Finally, I could play with my children and go exercising with them. Old people need family members’ care. They want their family member to pay attention to them and care for them. Therefore, when I become old, I would like to live with my children.
Topic 2: When your parents become old and get sick, what would you do? Please state your reasons.

As we gradually grow up, our parents become older and older. Then my parents will become old and get sick one day. I think I will take care of them and give them my affection and attention, which is just as what they have done for us. They have ever taken close care of us and given all the things that we need without any complaint. As a result, we should return these to them.

If they become old, they need my company. I should accompany them so that they would not feel lonely. If they need something, I will do my best to achieve their hopes. I can offer them a wealthy life and perfect care. When they feel bored, I would stay by their side and chat with them patiently. With my company, they would not feel lonely but feel happy.
The End