

# Novel•Ties

## A Lantern in Her Hand

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## A Study Guide

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**LEARNING LINKS**

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## For the Teacher

This reproducible study guide consists of instructional material to use in conjunction with the novel *A Lantern in Her Hand*. Written in chapter-by-chapter format, the guide contains a synopsis, pre-reading activities, vocabulary and comprehension exercises, as well as extension activities to be used as follow-up to the novel.

NOVEL-TIES are either for whole class instruction using a single title or for group instruction where each group uses a different novel appropriate to its reading level. Depending upon the amount of time allotted to it in the classroom, each novel, with its guide and accompanying lessons, may be completed in two to four weeks.

The first step in using NOVEL-TIES is to distribute to each student a copy of the novel and a folder containing all of the duplicated worksheets. Begin instruction by selecting several pre-reading activities in order to set the stage for the reading ahead. Vocabulary exercises for each chapter always precede the reading so that new words will be reinforced in the context of the book. Use the questions on the chapter worksheets for class discussion or as written exercises.

The benefits of using NOVEL-TIES are numerous. Students read good literature in the original, rather than in abridged or edited form. The good reading habits formed by practice in focusing on interpretive comprehension and literary techniques will be transferred to the books students read independently. Passive readers become active, avid readers.

## PRE-READING ACTIVITIES

1. Preview the book by reading the title and the author's name and by looking at the illustration on the cover. What do you think the book will be about? Where and when do you think the events of the novel occur?
2. **Pair/Share:** These lines from the poem "Love's Lantern" by Joyce Kilmer appear on the title page of *A Lantern in Her Hand*. What do the lines from the poem suggest to you about the novel you are about to read? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

Because the road was steep and long,  
And through a dark and lonely land,  
God set upon my lips a song  
And put a lantern in my hand.

3. The following historical, literary, and biblical references are cited in the novel you are about to read. Choose two or three of the references and research their significance. Write your findings on index cards and share your knowledge with your classmates by displaying the cards on a bulletin board labeled "References from *A Lantern in Her Hand*."

Amazons	Mephistopheles
Ceres	Minerva
Paul Dombey	Naomi, Ruth, and Orpha
Gaul	Niobe
Gethsemane	Pomona
Golgotha	Rachel
Hamlet	"The Raven"
Hesperus	Scylla

4. **Social Studies Connection:** Do some research to learn about the doctrine of "Manifest Destiny." When was the term introduced? Who first used it? What significance did the doctrine of Manifest Destiny have in America during the 1800s?
5. Photography was in its infancy in the 1860s—the time that the main characters in this book were beginning their life on the prairie. Do some library or Internet research to find examples of early photographs that were taken by itinerant photographers of that time and place. They will show you examples of sod houses and vast, lonely spaces that made life a challenge for the prairie settlers.
6. What does the word *courage* mean to you? How can a person demonstrate the quality of courage in his or her everyday life? Share your ideas in a brief essay to be read aloud in class.

## INTRODUCTION, CHAPTERS 1 – 6

**Vocabulary:** Antonyms are words with opposite meanings. Draw a line from each word in column A to its antonym in column B. Then use the words in column A to fill in the blanks in the sentences below.

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
1. effete	a. peasant
2. frugal	b. rise
3. aristocrat	c. hushed
4. stentorian	d. imaginative
5. declivity	e. modest
6. animate	f. vigorous
7. prosaic	g. lifeless
8. bombastic	h. wasteful

.....

1. A(n) \_\_\_\_\_ lifestyle was required by most people who needed to survive the years of the Great Depression.
2. Mr. Ames' \_\_\_\_\_ speech made everyone lose patience as they waited for him to get to the point.
3. The presidential candidate promised to change the course of the country's \_\_\_\_\_ political system and restore its sagging economy.
4. His \_\_\_\_\_ voice required no amplification in the two-thousand-seat auditorium.
5. Wearing a top hat and ascot, the man had the appearance of a(n) \_\_\_\_\_.
6. As they hiked through the woods, they finally came to a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ in the path that led them down to a stream.
7. All \_\_\_\_\_ creatures require some form of liquid nourishment.
8. The editor spent many hours changing a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ manuscript into an exciting novel.