

Massachusetts

2017 Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for English Language Arts and Literacy

LESSON

Monologue in Context

Clara Humble and the Kitten Caboodle

TEACHES

RL.4.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including those that allude to significant characters found in mythology (e.g., Herculean); explain how figurative language (e.g., simile, metaphor) enriches a text. (See grade 4 Language Standards 4–6 on applying knowledge of vocabulary to reading.)

WHY THIS EARNS THE STANDARD

Students determine a word's meaning from a direct contextual definition and verify it against the scene.

The canonical lesson that follows is unchanged. This cover is an additive curriculum-placement layer.

TumbleTA | Tumbleweed Press Inc. | Corrected build 2026-09-09

TUMBLETA | GRADE 4 ELA | STANDALONE SKILL LESSON

Monologue in Context

Clara Humble and the Kitten Caboodle

20 minutes

OBJECTIVE

Determine the meaning of monologue from a direct contextual definition and test it against a character's behavior.

STUDENT PRODUCT

A student-friendly definition plus one evidence sentence showing why the scene fits.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

What does monologue mean, and what in Bradley's behavior matches that meaning?

TEXT FOCUS

The churchyard scene in which context directly explains the word.

LESSON SEQUENCE

1. Find the definition clue | 3 min Locate the words that explain monologue.
2. Restate | 4 min Write the meaning in your own words.
3. Test against behavior | 5 min Identify what Bradley does that fits the definition.
4. Apply | 6 min Create a short example and non-example of a monologue.
5. Check | 2 min A monologue is not simply any conversation.

TEACHER KEY / EXPECTED THINKING

A monologue is a long speech by one person; Bradley's extended one-person talking in the scene fits the direct contextual definition.

LOOK FOR

- Uses the direct definition clue.
- Restates the meaning accurately.
- Distinguishes a monologue from a back-and-forth conversation.

TumbleTA | Grade 4 ELA | Canonical standalone skill lesson