



## English and Language Classes Lesson Plans for *Jake and the Tiger Flight*

### Chapters 1-3



#### Pre-Reading:

Skim and scan the first three chapters.

Answer the following questions as fully as you can:

1. What do you think the book is about?
2. Who are the main characters?
3. Does the book seem interesting to you?
4. How would you rate the readability of the novel?

#### Vocabulary:

Define the following words. What does the dictionary tell you about the word origins?

1. supersonic
2. amble

#### Figures of Speech:

A **simile** is a comparison using “like” or “as.” Find two similes on page 26. Create similes of your own.

An **allusion** is a reference to a historical figure, place or event; to a Biblical character, place or event; or to a literary character, place or event.

Research the following allusions that appear in the book:

1. King Arthur
2. Merlin
3. Excalibur
4. Camelot

#### Making Connections:

Read “A Dream Deferred” by Langston Hughes.

How does the poem relate to Jake Skyler?

What does a dream feel like?

Describe some of your dreams.

#### Discussion:

1. Have you ever flown in an airplane? Describe the experience.
2. Do you think Jake’s parents are fair?
3. Should parents limit the time kids spend on video games?

## **Chapters 4-6**

### **Pre-reading:**

Skim and scan the chapters.

What new characters are introduced?

What words give clues to Jake's involvement outside of his father's hardware store?

### **Vocabulary:**

Define and look up the origin: fuselage.

### **Literary Terms:**

We learn about characters through the following: actions, thoughts, dialogue, others' reactions to the character, and direct description.

Divide into groups of four or five. Find three examples of each type of characterization as they relate to Jake, his mother, and his father.

### **Making Connections:**

Retell the story of "Jack and the Beanstalk" or "Hansel and Gretel." Both stories tell of children wandering from the safety of their homes. What is the appeal of these stories? How do they relate to *Jake and the Tiger Flight*?

## **Chapters 7-10**

### **Pre-reading:**

Skim and scan the chapters.

What words relate to flying?

What impression does Jake make on the pilots?

### **Vocabulary:**

Define and find the origins:

Chivalrous

Fingertip formation

Choreography

### **Literary Terms:**

Discuss the meaning of the following quote by da Vinci:

“For once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the Earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been and there you long to return.”

What is the **literal** meaning of “flying” in this quote? What could be the **figurative** meaning of “flying” in this quote?

### **Making Connections:**

View the beginning of *ET*. What do Jake and Eliot have in common?

### **Discussion:**

1. What does it mean to “Finish what you start, follow through.”
2. Describe the Ready Room and the Pilots Lounge.
3. Identify the following characters: Adam, Debra, Max, Gabriel, Drew, Billy Grant, Sunny, Winder, Matt the Armpit, and Fury.
4. Why is Jake’s mother worried about him?

### **Activity:**

Draw a picture of the Tiger Flight formation.

## ***Chapters 11-15***

### **Pre-reading**

Skim and scan the chapters.

What words or characters indicate conflict?

What similes can you find?

### **Vocabulary:**

Define the following:

Rome area traffic

Aircoupe

dream-flying

3 G's

corkscrewing spiral

emotional bank account

### **Discussion:**

1. Divide into small groups of four or five. Discuss the main conflict of each chapter.
2. What does Fury on p. 119 say about goals? How does Jake react?
3. Sunny describes three kinds of people (p. 120). Who are they?
4. Who is Bones? Why is that an appropriate name?
5. How are dreams “fuel” to obtain our goals?
6. Why should rewards match our earned goals?
7. How do Adam and Victor react to Jake’s elevated grades in school?
8. Describe the yoke and pedals of the aircraft. For what are each used?
9. What are Jake’s rewards at the hangar?
10. How do Jake’s parents support his goals and dreams?

### ***Chapters 16-19***

#### **Pre-reading:**

Skim and scan the chapters.

How do Jake's friends feel about Jake's new responsibilities as Flight Crew?

#### **Vocabulary:**

Define the following:

reflex and instinct

simulator

#### **Discussion:**

1. Why does Jake allow Billy to go inside the tape?
2. What are the consequences of Jake's decision?

#### **Literary Terms:**

There are two types of **climaxes** in the novel: Internal and External. The internal climax is the highest emotional conflict of the novel, while the external climax is the highest physical conflict of the novel.

What is the internal climax of the novel? What is the external climax?

***Chapters 20-22***

**Literary Terms:**

The **resolution** ties up all the loose ends and unanswered questions of the novel.

What does Jake find out about his mother?

What steps does Jake take to get his job as Flight Crew back?

How does Jake become a hero at the end of the novel?

What is Jake's new "call sign"? How does he earn it?

**Activity:**

1. Dramatize the scenes between Jake and the escaped convicts. Write a mini-screenplay and enact it in front of the class.
2. Create your own video game that involves Tiger Fighters. Research names of famous pilots for your characters' names.
3. Write a different ending to the novel.
4. Describe Jake twenty years later.
5. Create a musical montage that reflects the theme of the novel.