

Lesson B
Jasmine Can: Creating Self-Confidence by Bena Hartman, Ed.D.
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Story Impression

A Story Impression is a prereading/writing activity whereby students use key words and concepts from the story (yet to be read) to write their own version of the story.

The purpose of a story impression is help students make connections between key concepts and ideas within a story. The developers McGinley and Denner (1987) view a Story Impression similar to that of a “sloppy copy” or the first draft of a composition. Select words that focus on the characters, setting, and plot. Choose between 10-15 words.

Using a **Story Impression** as a guide the students will be able to:

1. Write their own version of the story *Jasmine Can* by using key words and phrases from the story
 2. Read their story to the class
 3. Listen to the story read by the teacher
 4. Compare and contrast their version of the story with *Jasmine Can*
- First, explain what a Story Impression is—a pre-reading/writing strategy. Show them an example on the smart-board or whatever you use for whole class instruction.
 - Second, give them a Story Impression from *Jasmine Can*. Remember to take words from the beginning, middle, and end of the story. Do not give them the title of the story, have them make up their own. Ask them to compose a story using the words you have chosen. For example:

Jasmine
↓
reader
↓
Chloe Brown
↓
alphabet
↓

- They should use the words from top down. Do not define the words for them. Allow them time to write. This step may take a while.
- Then, when they have completed writing their story, ask them to share them with the class. Note the differences and similarities in their stories.
- Next, read the story.
- Finally, compare their story impressions to *Jasmine Can*. Use a graphic organizer such as a Venn Diagram to compare how they are alike, different, and/or the same.

McGinley, W. & Denner, P. (1987). Story Impressions: A prereading/writing activity. Journal of Reading, (31) 3, 248-253.

Tierney, R., & Readence, J. (2005). Reading strategies and practices: A Compendium (6th ed.). Boston. Allyn & Bacon.

<http://www.pearsonhighered.com/educator/product/Reading-Strategies-and-Practices-A-Compendium/9780205386390.page>

This text provides a description of Story Impressions.