

# **A Teaching Unit For *Hoot***

**Carl Hiaasen**



**Sample Packet**



# **ELA Core Plans**

Teacher-Written Standards-Based Lesson Plans



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*Teaching Unit*  
**Hoot Sample Packet**  
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# ***Hoot Teaching Unit***

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**The highlighted chapters are yours free! Scroll down to print.**

# Hoot

## Pre-reading Activities

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Anticipation Guide

Read each of the following statements. Place a T beside the statements that you think are true and an F beside statements that you think are false.

If you know something is going to happen to the environment that you know is wrong, you should do something to keep it from happening. \_\_\_\_\_

It is okay to lie if your fib helps a good cause. \_\_\_\_\_

You should always stand up to bullies. \_\_\_\_\_

There is nothing I can do to help an animal or plant that is in danger of becoming extinct. \_\_\_\_\_

### Writing Response

In *Hoot*, one person leaves his family and lives alone in the outdoors. Think about what it would be like to be homeless and on your own without anyone to care for you. What would you need to survive? What traits do you have that may help you survive or not survive? Complete the following chart with things that you would need to live on your own and a list of words that describe your personality. Then, write a paragraph telling whether or not you think you could make it.

Things I would need	My personality traits

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# ***Hoot***

## **Chapter 1**

### **Conflict, Point of View, and Irony**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Conflict**

There are two plots that are emerging in this chapter. One plot involves Roy, and the other plot involves Officer David Delinko. Use the following chart to summarize the complications that arise in chapter one for each character.

<b>Character's Name</b>	<b>Conflict</b>	<b>Type of Conflict</b>
Roy		
Officer Delinko		

#### **Point of View**

Though it is only the first chapter, the reader can already tell the point of view that is used in this novel. Complete the following chart on point of view.

<b>Point of view used in this book</b>	<b>Evidence that proves I am right on the point of view</b>	<b>Advantages of this point of view</b>

#### **Irony**

Verbal irony involves a contrast between what is said or written and what is meant. Example: if you call a really tall person, "Shorty".

Situational irony occurs when what happens is very different from what is expected to happen. Example: A man who has been afraid to fly in a plane all of his life finally gets the courage to do it, and then the plane crashes.

Dramatic irony occurs when the audience or the reader knows something a character does not know. Example: The reader knows who the criminal is, but the characters do not know.

**1. Why is Curly's name an example of verbal irony?**

**2. It is ironic that Garrett's mother is a guidance counselor at Trace Middle. What type of irony is this?**

***Hoot***  
**Chapter 2**  
**Examine Word Choice**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Carl Hiaasen's word choice is nothing short of excellent in this novel. Let's take a look at it in chapter two.

**Complete the following chart by looking at each provided page and finding words, phrases, or sentences that paint a picture in your mind, linger in your memory, or that you think are just "cool ways to say something".**

Page Number	Word, Phrase, or Sentence	Why I like it
14		
15		
16		
17		

**Turn to page 21. Find the fifth paragraph that begins with *He had missed his morning classes....* Finally, list the words and phrases from the paragraph that help create imagery.**

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**Write a paragraph about another school meal using your own descriptive words, phrases, and strong verbs.**

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***Hoot***  
**Chapter 3**  
**Suspense and Tone**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

The author of this book knows when to slow the action down to add suspense. Read the following paragraph.

*Officer Delinko asked, “Can I check out your latrines?”  
“Sure, but there ain’t much to wreck on a port-a-potty,” Officer Delinko went in, shined his flashlight into the toilet hole and saw alligators!*

The action in this chapter is not written like the above passage, and thankfully so! If it were, it would lack suspense. Complete the following chart to figure out what the author did to create suspense.

Actions before alligators are revealed to the reader	How this adds suspense

**Tone**

Roy’s mother said that the tone of Roy’s letter was “forceful”. What other words could you say describe the tone of this letter? Rewrite the letter using another tone. You could use an angry tone, a sarcastic tone, an apologetic tone, or one of your choosing.

Dear Dana,

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# ***Hoot***

## Test chapters 1-7

1. Why would Curly say, “What owls?” when asked about the burrowing owls?
  - a. He had no idea what Officer Delinko was talking about.
  - b. He did not know that owls were on his property.
  - c. He knew about them, but he was not worried about what happened to the owls.
  - d. He wanted to do everything he could to protect the owls.
  
2. What made Miss Hennepin eventually believe Roy’s story?
  - a. She talked with Roy’s parents.
  - b. She saw a note that Dana had written to harass Roy.
  - c. She saw marks on Roy’s neck.
  - d. She believed Roy’s explanation of the fight.
  
3. *The boy was still far ahead of him [Roy]. And Roy was gulping like a beached trout.*  
What is being compared in this simile?
  - a. Roy is being compared to a beach.
  - b. The boy ahead of Roy is being compared to a beached trout.
  - c. The way Roy is breathing is being compared to a beached trout.
  - d. The way Roy looks is being compared to a beached trout.
  
4. Which of the following words best describe Mullet Fingers?
  - a. lonely and sad
  - b. brave and unconventional
  - c. timid and reserved
  - d. arrogant and greedy

*It turned out that Curly’s real name was Leroy Branitt, and he was the “supervising engineer” of the construction project. He scowled when he saw the policeman write down “foreman” instead.*

5. In the above passage, *supervising engineer* is a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ for *foreman*.
  - a. euphemism
  - b. oxymoron
  - c. metaphor
  - d. symbol
  
6. How did the running boy get the name Mullet Fingers?
  - a. His fingers (and body) smell like a mullet.
  - b. He lost a finger in a fishing accident.
  - c. He tried to feed a mullet a finger.
  - d. He can catch a mullet with his hand.



We hope you enjoyed this free sample packet for Hoot! Download our entire [teaching unit for Hoot](#), and you will have all of the handouts, activities, and tests listed in the table of contents. Use these lessons immediately and for years to come.

Also, check out our other resources. We have tons of resources for ELA teachers including [novel units](#), [short story lessons](#), [writing activities](#), and [Common-Core bell ringer activities](#). You can print free samples from all of these online teaching materials!

Happy Teaching! 😊  
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