

Laying the Foundation for  
Inferencing Through Visual  
Texts

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Activity

- ✓ You need a piece of scrap paper and pencil.
- ✓ You will write for 5 minutes independently.
- ✓ You can describe what you see or come up with a story related to the picture.

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How did the fire start? smoking  
grease fire  
oven/stove/microwave

Where are her parents? drunk and passed out  
not home  
outside

Why didn't she get out? didn't smell smoke  
bars on windows  
sleeping

Why is she naked? bath  
clothes caught on fire

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## Our Perspectives

- Background Knowledge
- Life Experiences
- Vocabulary




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## In your classroom...

- ✓ 10 minutes daily
- ✓ composition notebook
- ✓ visual text

That's it!

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## Process

- 1. Picture is on the board.
- 2. Students get their notebook and begin writing.
- 3. After 10 minutes, share what you've written.
- 4. Discuss any key vocabulary necessary.

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## What are the benefits?

- \* Quick
- \* Easily implemented
- \* Independence
- \* Creativity
- \* No right/wrong
- \* Rapport

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## Prove it!

- \* students' length of responses
- \* growth in vocabulary
- \* grammar rules that have been internalized
- \* sense in geography

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## Where?

- MSN Pictures of the Week
- Youtube (short films & commercials)
- Emails

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## Inferences

- Girl?
- Monster?
- Man?



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## Game?

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## Compare and Contrast

Piano Man

Memories

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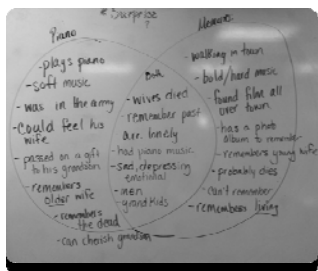
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## Student Responses

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## Transferring to English Text

•Neill called Edgar Tuesday afternoon and invited him to come to his house after dinner to watch a movie. It had been a long, boring day, and Edgar was excited to have something to do. After dinner, he hopped on his bike and pedaled over to Neill's house. The house was dark, and when he rang the bell, there was no answer. Edgar turned around, hopped back on his bike, and rode home.

- What had Edgar concluded?
- What clues in the story helped you to make this inference?
- Why do you think Neill wasn't home?



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## Transferring to English Text

He put down \$10 at the window. The woman behind the window gave him \$4. The person next to him gave him \$3 but he gave it back to her. So, when they went inside she bought a large bag of popcorn.

Where are they?

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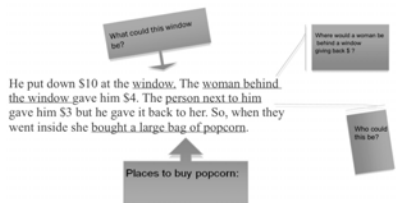
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Excerpt from  
Al's World: Killer Lunch Lady

Beth looked at Mrs Holt and made a hand signal.

Wow. If I'd done that to my mother, I would have been grounded.

If I'd done that to a teacher, I would have been suspended.

If I'd done that to, say, an upperclassman, I would have been punched.



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Questions or Comments?

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