

retold by jennifer bassett english center

Retold by Jennifer Bassett English Center is a remarkable series that offers a fresh perspective on classic literature, making it accessible and engaging for learners of English as a second language. This collection not only aims to enhance reading skills but also enriches cultural understanding through its carefully curated stories. This article explores the significance of this series, its structure, the educational benefits it provides, and some highlighted works that exemplify its value.

Overview of the Series

The Retold by Jennifer Bassett English Center series is designed to simplify classic literary works without losing their core essence. By rewriting these stories in a way that is easy to understand, the series caters to a diverse audience, including students, teachers, and anyone interested in improving their English language skills.

Purpose and Goals

The primary objectives of the series include:

1. Enhancing Comprehension: The retold versions are crafted to ensure that readers can grasp the storyline and themes without getting bogged down by complex language.
2. Fostering a Love for Literature: By making classic stories accessible, the series encourages readers to appreciate literature and its historical and cultural contexts.
3. Supporting Language Learning: The simplified language helps learners acquire vocabulary and grammatical structures in an enjoyable way.

Structure of the Series

The Retold by Jennifer Bassett English Center series is characterized by its thoughtful structure, which includes several key components designed to aid comprehension and retention.

Story Selection

Each story in the series is carefully selected based on its literary significance and relevance. The retold versions often include:

- Timeless Classics: Works from authors such as Charles Dickens, Jane Austen, and Mark Twain.
- Cultural Diversity: Stories from various cultures that reflect different perspectives and

experiences.

Language and Style

The language used in the retellings is tailored to suit the proficiency level of the intended audience. Key features include:

- **Simplified Vocabulary:** Common words and phrases are used to ensure clarity.
- **Shorter Sentences:** The narrative style is straightforward, allowing for easier reading.
- **Consistent Tone:** The tone remains faithful to the original work while being approachable.

Supplementary Materials

To enhance the learning experience, the series often includes additional resources such as:

- **Glossaries:** Definitions of difficult words to aid comprehension.
- **Discussion Questions:** Prompts that encourage critical thinking and engagement with the text.
- **Activities:** Exercises that reinforce vocabulary and comprehension skills.

Educational Benefits

The Retold by Jennifer Bassett English Center series offers a plethora of educational advantages, particularly for language learners.

Improved Reading Skills

By engaging with retold literature, learners can:

- **Build Vocabulary:** Encountering new words in context helps in memorization and usage.
- **Enhance Reading Fluency:** The simplified text allows readers to practice without becoming overwhelmed.

Cultural Understanding

Reading diverse stories promotes cultural awareness and empathy. Learners gain insights into:

- **Historical Contexts:** Understanding the time and place in which the original stories were

written.

- Different Perspectives: Exposure to characters and situations outside their own experiences.

Critical Thinking Development

The discussion questions and activities that accompany the stories encourage learners to:

- Analyze Themes: Reflect on the underlying messages and morals in the stories.
- Compare and Contrast: Relate the themes to contemporary issues or personal experiences.

Highlighted Works in the Series

Several notable stories have been retold in the Retold by Jennifer Bassett English Center series. Here are a few examples that stand out:

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

This beloved novel, originally published in 1813, is a keen exploration of themes such as love, class, and social expectations.

- Key Characters: Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy.
- Major Themes: The importance of marrying for love, the critique of societal norms.

The retelling simplifies the complex social dynamics of the time, making it approachable while retaining the humor and wit of Austen's writing.

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

Set against the backdrop of the French Revolution, this classic novel captures themes of resurrection, sacrifice, and the struggle for justice.

- Key Characters: Charles Darnay, Sydney Carton, and Madame Defarge.
- Major Themes: The impact of social injustice and the possibility of redemption.

The retold version focuses on the emotional journeys of the characters, providing a compelling narrative that resonates with modern readers.

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

This iconic story of a young boy growing up along the Mississippi River offers insights into childhood, adventure, and moral dilemmas.

- Key Characters: Tom Sawyer, Huckleberry Finn, and Becky Thatcher.
- Major Themes: The joys and challenges of youth, friendship, and the quest for freedom.

The retelling presents Tom's escapades in a way that is relatable, making it an enjoyable read for learners of all ages.

Conclusion

The Retold by Jennifer Bassett English Center series serves as an invaluable resource for those looking to improve their English skills while exploring the richness of classic literature. By providing simplified yet engaging versions of timeless stories, the series not only supports language acquisition but also fosters a deeper appreciation for literary art. Through its thoughtful structure, diverse selections, and educational benefits, the series stands out as a notable contribution to language learning and cultural understanding. Whether you are a teacher seeking materials for your students or a learner looking to delve into literature, the series offers something for everyone, making it a must-have in the world of English language education.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is 'Retold' by Jennifer Bassett about?

'Retold' is a collection of adapted classic stories and modern tales aimed at English language learners, featuring simplified language and engaging narratives.

Who is the target audience for 'Retold' by Jennifer Bassett?

The target audience includes English language learners, particularly those at intermediate levels, as well as teachers looking for accessible literature to use in the classroom.

What are the benefits of using 'Retold' for English learners?

'Retold' helps improve reading comprehension, vocabulary, and cultural understanding through familiar stories that are presented in an accessible format.

Are the stories in 'Retold' original works or adaptations?

The stories in 'Retold' are adaptations of classic and contemporary literature, rewritten to suit the linguistic needs of English learners.

How can teachers incorporate 'Retold' into their curriculum?

Teachers can use 'Retold' as a supplementary resource for reading assignments, discussion topics, and vocabulary exercises, making it a versatile tool in the classroom.

What types of stories are included in 'Retold'?

'Retold' features a variety of genres, including fairy tales, classic literature, and modern stories, ensuring a diverse selection for learners.

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