

Lesson Skill: Comprehending functional and informational text—directions/instructions

Strand Reading—nonfiction

SOL 9.5
10.5
11.5
12.5

Materials

- Internet access for each student
- Copies of the attached How Do You Change a Tire? handout
- Dictionaries and an online dictionary

Lesson

1. Provide students with the following scenario: “Your best friend calls saying she has a flat tire and is 200 miles away on a secondary road where she is not likely to be found by Motorist Assistance. She does not have the money to pay for a tow truck, yet she has never changed a tire before.” What can you do to help her? You decide the best thing to do is to talk her through changing the tire herself, so you go online to a Web site that gives directions for changing a tire, and you give your friend the instructions over the phone.
2. Distribute copies of the attached How Do You Change a Tire? handout. Have students do an Internet search, read the instructions for changing a tire, and respond to the questions on the handout.
3. Discuss responses when students have finished. Ask, “Were any of the instructions difficult for you to understand? Do you think any of the instructions would be difficult for your friend to understand under the circumstances? Why, or why not?”
4. Have students add any previously unfamiliar vocabulary and their definitions to a list of terminology for informational reading materials. Allow them to use dictionaries or an online dictionary.

Strategies for Differentiation

- Vocabulary – Word Mapping
- Text to Speech – Read aloud
- How-To video on how to change a tire
- Questioning—video discussion

How Do You Change a Tire?

Answer the following questions, based on the information gained from the tire-changing Web site

1. Which of the following is *not* one of the recommended safety precautions listed on this site?
 - A. Place a large rock behind the diagonally positioned tire.
 - B. Place flares behind and in front of the vehicle.
 - C. Raise the hood.
 - D. Move the car to level ground if necessary.
2. Prior to changing the tire, which of the following sets of materials must one assemble?
 - A. A jack, a tire iron, the spare tire
 - B. A spare tire, a jack, a length of pipe
 - C. A spare tire, a jack, a hubcap
 - D. A tire iron, a wrench, a jack
3. What is a useful piece of equipment not included with a car's tire changing equipment?
 - A. A lubricant for the lug nuts
 - B. A piece of pipe two feet in length
 - C. Emergency flares
 - D. Knee pads
4. Which of the following may be variable depending on the make of the automobile?
 - A. The location of the hubcaps
 - B. The availability of a spare tire
 - C. The safe positioning of the jack
 - D. The tightness of the lug nuts
5. Which of the following best describes things to remember when working with the lug nuts?
 - A. Lubricate them if they can't be loosened.
 - B. Loosen in a star-shaped pattern.
 - C. Place the lug nuts on level ground so they won't roll.
 - D. All of the above.
6. On the occasion of a flat tire, what is the driver most likely to find?
 - A. The lug nuts can't be loosened.
 - B. The jack doesn't work.
 - C. The spare tire is flat.
 - D. The car is also out of gas.