

ELA: Grade 4, Lesson 10, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow

**Lesson Focus:** Analyze the details about the setting, characters, and events from section five of the story, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*

**Practice Focus:** Write a newspaper report about the Headless Horseman incident, using details about the setting, characters, and events from the fifth section of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.

**Objective:** Students will use the last scene of *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* to engage in narrative fiction with a focus on determining the meaning of words and phrase to describe the event. Then, the student will write a newspaper report by summarizing the event and providing an opinion on what happened.

**Academic Vocabulary:** legend, character, Revolutionary War, infer, setting, events

**TN Standards:** 4.RL.KID.1; 4.RL.KID.2; 4.RL.KID.3; 4.RL.CS.4, 4.W.PDW.4

**Teacher Materials:**

- Chart with the elements of a legend:
  - A legend usually:
    - Focuses on heroic individuals or fantastic creatures
    - Describes an exciting adventure.
    - May have some basis in historical fact
    - Includes some supernatural events
- All charts from previous lessons to be used as a quick review at the beginning: setting, Ichabod, Brom, events, and party events
- Chart with “Notes for Newspaper Article” at the top
- Chart paper with these lines written so it can be folded or uncovered to reveal each section at a time: Sleepy Hollow Gazette / Local Teacher Disappears / On the night of October 20, 1787, a party was held at the home of Farmer Von Tassel. / At 8:00pm, Ichabod Crane, a guest at the party left in a hurry on his borrowed horse. / Mr. Crane headed across the bridge by the church humming as he rode. [Note: skip a big space and then write next sentence.] Based upon my review of the evidence, it is my opinion that \_\_\_\_\_. I am basing my opinion on these pieces of evidence:
- Chart with the independent task: Pretend you are a reporter for the Sleepy Hollow Gazette. Report on the events that happened after Ichabod finds out Katrina is using him to make Brom jealous. Start reporting as Ichabod is leaving the Von Tassel party. At the end of the article, the editor of the paper has also asked you to include your opinion of what you think really happened at the scene using evidence you have uncovered.
- Teacher Packet for ELA, Grade 4, Lesson 10: Printed PPT deck or a way to display images from the PPT

**Student Materials:**

- Two pieces of paper
- Pencil
- Surface to write on
- The student packet for ELA, Grade 4, Lesson 10 which can be found at [www.tn.gov/education](http://www.tn.gov/education)

Teacher Do	Students Do
<b>Opening</b> (1 min) <b>Hello! Welcome to Tennessee’s At Home Learning Series for</b>	Students gather materials for the lesson and prepare to engage with

<p><b>literacy! Today's lesson is for all our fourth graders out there, though all children are welcome to tune in. This lesson is the fifth in this series.</b></p> <p><b>My name is ____ and I'm a ____ grade teacher in Tennessee schools. I'm so excited to be your teacher for this lesson! Welcome to my virtual classroom!</b></p> <p><b>If you didn't see our previous lesson, you can find it at <a href="http://www.tn.gov/education">www.tn.gov/education</a>. You can still tune in to today's lesson if you haven't seen any of our others. But, it might be more fun if you first go back and watch our other lessons since we'll be talking about things we learned previously. We will do a quick review of yesterday's section of the story.</b></p> <p><b>Today, we will be reading the fifth part of a legend set post, or after, the Revolutionary War.</b></p> <p><b>Before we get started, to participate fully in our lesson today, you will need:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 pieces of paper</li> <li>• Pencil</li> <li>• Surface to write on</li> <li>• The student packet for ELA, Grade 4, Lesson 10 which can be found at <a href="http://www.tn.gov/education">www.tn.gov/education</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Ok, let's begin!</b></p>	<p>the lesson's content.</p>
<p><b>Intro (4 minutes)</b></p> <p><b>Remember in the previous four lessons we have been discussing what makes a story a legend. [Refer to legend chart as you begin reading.] A legend usually focuses on heroic individuals or fantastic creatures and describes an exciting adventure. It may have some basis in historical fact and include some supernatural events. Remember our example of something supernatural was ghosts. If you participated in the last lesson, you might remember the men of the party having a supernatural conversation in the drawing room, or entertaining room. Wait until you hear what happens in the last part of the story today! So exciting!</b></p> <p><b>For our lesson focus, we will continue our look at how the author uses words and phrases to describe the setting, characters, and events, but instead of you describing the events, you are going to use the descriptions to write a newspaper article describing what happened and giving your opinion about the event – pretending you follow Ichabod on your own horse as he leaves the party. I will talk about how</b></p>	<p>Students recall information about legends from previous lesson.</p> <p>Students understand the gradual release</p>

to use the words the author chooses to think about the final event in the story by looking closely at the setting and characters. Then, there will be time for you to practice thinking and writing the article on your own with my support. Finally, I will assign you independent work that you can complete after the video ends. This is the framework we have followed for all the lessons.

As a quick review of our story so far, let's remember what we discussed about the setting, characters, and events in the first four lessons. [Show setting chart from lesson 6] *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* is set among the hills beyond Tarry Town. Days in Sleepy Hollow are peaceful; while nights are haunted by hoofbeats. There is a legend in the town about a soldier who lost his head during the Revolutionary War and roams the hollow at night looking for his head. We have two main characters: Ichabod Crane and Brom Bones. [Show Ichabod chart from lesson 7] Ichabod Crane is a thin scarecrow of a man with a tiny head and a spindly neck. The author says his "ears are big as saucers." Ichabod is a strict teacher who is also known to be a gossip. When riding his horse alone at twilight, he was so scared of the shadows that he raced to his attic room and locked the door. [Show Brom chart from lesson 7] In contrast, Brom Bones is an athletic gentleman who has herculean strength and only loves two things: his horse and Katrina Van Tassel. Others see him as the most eligible bachelor, a prankster, and not very smart. In fact, Ichabod compares Brom's brain to a pea. [Show event chart from lesson 8] After we were introduced to the setting and characters, some interesting events occurred. Ichabod realized that Brom liked Katrina, too, so he tried to get her attention by singing in church. By her actions, it appeared she liked him, too. After Ichabod sang for her at church, he received an invitation to a party at her father's house. During the party, haunted tales of the Headless Horseman were shared in the drawing room which made Ichabod slink from the room to find Katrina to tell her that he wants to marry her. To his disappointment, Ichabod finds out that Katrina was only pretending to like him to make Brom jealous! Ichabod hurriedly leaves the house and jumps on his horse. Whew... that is where we stopped yesterday. I hope you enjoyed writing your own ending to the story in the last lesson. To prepare you to write your own ending, I asked you a few questions. As I reread the questions, reflect on whether you answered them in your writing:

- What did Ichabod do? [Pause] I think he probably galloped to the woods. Is that what you wrote? Something supernatural

Students listen to a review of lesson from previous lessons

<p>happened in the woods with Ichabod, I am sure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How did Brom react to Ichabod leaving? [Pause] If I had written the story, Brom would have been very excited that Katrina did not really like Ichabod.</li> <li>○ How did Katrina react? [Pause] In my version, Katrina would have walked back into the party and batted her eyes at Brom.</li> <li>○ What is your setting? Was your setting at the party or did it move somewhere else? [Pause] I think I would have written a paragraph about what happens as Ichabod leaves, but the main setting would be in the woods.</li> </ul> <p>Did you answer all the questions in your story ending? The fun part is in this lesson you will find out how it really ended...and, boy, is it suspenseful and exciting!</p> <p>During our reading today, we will capture information about the last scene in the story- based on the words of the author. This will help us describe the events and use them to write at the end of this lesson. We want to think about what we know about the event by the details the author provides us. To help you think ahead, you will be pretending you are a newspaper reporter writing an article about the event in the last scene. It is very important that we collect all the details to create an accurate, or factual, article. Go ahead and grab your paper for today's notes. At the top, write <i>notes for newspaper article</i>. We will use these as we read the story. [Show students teacher chart paper with <i>Notes for Newspaper Article</i> written at the top.] <b>Let's begin! We left off yesterday as Ichabod was hopping on his horse to leave the party because he had just discovered Katrina was using him to make Brom jealous.</b></p>	<p>Students will compare their paragraph to the one from the previous lesson.</p> <p>Students will prepare papers for the lesson.</p>
<p><b>Teacher Model/Read-Aloud</b> (16 minutes)</p> <p><b>Washington Irving's The Legend of Sleepy Hollow as retold by Kim T. Griswell. Part 5</b> [Show slide L6-A]</p> <p><b>She had tricked him! Used him to make that horse-riding buffoon Brom Bones jealous. How dare she!</b></p> <p><b>Ichabod rushed from the house. He yanked his plow horse from the feedbag and swung his bony frame into the saddle.</b></p> <p><b>All cheer had drained from the night. The green countryside</b></p>	<p>Students engage in the text with teacher – making meaning of the language used to note facts about the Headless Horseman incident</p>

had no color, no sound. As the night grew darker, the tales Ichabod had heard earlier rattled like knucklebones in his head. A tree became a looming beast reaching toward him. A rustle (or noise) in the bushes became a restless spirit (a type of ghost) with blazing eyes. Ichabod tried to hum away his fears.

- Let's start by adding some facts to our chart like we are a reporter who has followed along behind Ichabod and is seeing everything as it happens. What do we know has happened? [Pause] I am going to write: Ichabod Crane rushed from the party and left on his horse. [Add to chart]
- "All cheer had drained from the night." I love this line. What do you think it means? [Pause] Because cheer is another word for happiness, I think the author is showing us the feeling of the setting is changing. Everything was happy and joyful at the party, but since he realized that Katrina does not like him, all the happiness is gone.
- How is Ichabod feeling as he rides? How do you know? Jot a word on your paper to describe how he feels. [Pause] I can infer he is scared. The author tells us that tales, or stories, he heard at the party are rattling in his head, he imagines a tree is a beast reaching for him, and he thinks a noise in the bushes is a restless spirit. Also, he starts to hum.
- What is the word that is often part of a legend that would describe what a restless spirit is? [Pause] The word is supernatural.
- Let's think... if we are someone watching this happen, we don't know what Ichabod is thinking or feeling, but we can see what is happening. I think I will add – *Ichabod hummed on horse* because if I were watching, I could see that.

He was drawing close to the church and the one-lane bridge—the same bridge Brom Bones had raced toward with the Headless Horseman at his back. And at that very moment . . . the schoolteacher heard a moan. His knees knocked against the saddle. His heart jumped into his throat. He kicked old Gunpowder's flanks (or sides). The plow horse lurched (or moved) forward, snuffling and snorting.

- I want to reread this line: He was drawing close to the church and the one-lane bridge. What do you think this means? [Pause] It is interesting that in the last lesson we talked about a drawing room – which does not mean a place to draw but instead a large

Student writes details on own paper with teacher.

<p>party room, and in this lesson we have the word drawing again, and it does not mean making a picture. If someone is drawing close, it just means they are getting nearer to something. Ichabod is getting nearer to the church and bridge.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on what we have read, why do you think Ichabod is so scared? [Pause] I think because he is remembering the Headless Horseman story at the same time he is the crossing bridge by the church where it took place and he hears a moan, it makes him very scared!</li> <li>• Hmmm... if I were watching this take place, what facts might I record? Take a moment and jot a few on your paper. [Pause] I think I will record [Add to chart]:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ichabod crossed bridge by church</li> <li>○ Moan</li> <li>○ Ichabod kicked horse</li> <li>○ Horse lurched</li> </ul> </li> <li>• These facts will help us write our newspaper article at the end. Be sure you are writing these down as we go.</li> <li>• Let's continue!</li> </ul> <p>[Show L10-A] A shadowy figure bolted onto the road so close by that Ichabod imagined he could feel its breath! Ichabod's trembling fingers nearly dropped the reins. It was a horseman, huge and hulking. He was mounted on a night-black steed (which is a horse meant for riding).</p> <p>Old Gunpowder stopped short, nearly sending his rider sprawling over his head. "Who's there?" Ichabod's voice shook.</p> <p>The shadow did not answer.</p> <p>Ichabod edged old Gunpowder past the shadow. The silent horseman rode close by, hidden by the dark. The teacher nudged the plow horse into a jog. The black phantom jogged along. The fiend (or demon) rode so close that anyone watching might have mistaken it for the shadow of the terrified schoolmaster and his broken-down steed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wow! This is getting good! What do we know about how close the shadowy horseman is to Ichabod? [Pause] He must extremely close because Ichabod is imagining he can feel his breath on his own neck.</li> <li>• The last sentence gave us clues, too. "The fiend rode so close that anyone watching might have mistaken it for the shadow of the terrified schoolmaster and his broken-down steed." What does that mean? [ Pause]</li> </ul>	<p>Student writes details on own paper with teacher.</p>
---	--

<p>The shadowy horseman is so close that their shadows have become one shadow – not two.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What has happened that we need to record? Jot down some notes. [Pause] I am writing:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Another horseman appeared</li> <li>○ Ichabod's horse stops</li> <li>○ Ichabod yells, "Who's that?"</li> <li>○ Riding so close they looked like one shadow</li> </ul> </li> <li>• So suspenseful! Let's continue!</li> </ul> <p>Could Ichabod outrun the horseman? Brom Bones had done so. As they reached the top of a hill, Ichabod turned, hoping to get a better look. A full moon rose behind the shadow. To his horror, Ichabod could now see what he faced: The cloaked giant was headless! Yet . . . <i>was that a head on the pommel (or handle) of the saddle?</i></p> <p>"AUGH!" screamed Ichabod. His frantic cry terrified Gunpowder, and the old plow horse dashed away. Stones flew. Sparks flashed. Ichabod's coat flapped behind him. The headless shadow raced along.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wow! Lots of action to record! But before we get to the details, I want to talk about the word cloak. [Show L10-A again]. This rider is wearing a cloak. Notice that it just drapes over the shoulders. Cloaks usually have hoods and are long.</li> <li>• Why is the full moon important to this scene? [Pause] Until the moon is behind the horseman, Ichabod could not see him well, but when the moon is behind him, Ichabod can see that he has no head! The moon also allows him to see that the head appears to be on the saddle in front of the horseman.</li> <li>• Now... let's record details like we saw what happened. I will give you a minute to think before I write: [Pause then begin adding to chart.]             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Full moon behind the horseman</li> <li>○ Looks headless</li> <li>○ Round object on saddle in front of horseman</li> <li>○ Horseman wearing a cloak</li> <li>○ Ichabod screamed</li> <li>○ Ichabod's horse dashed</li> <li>○ Horseman followed</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>[Show L10-B] The great black steed (or horse) panted; its hot breath blew on the back of the schoolteacher's neck. Ichabod glanced over his shoulder to see the fiend (or demon) rising in the stirrups (where your feet go in a saddle). The</p>	<p>Student writes details on own paper with teacher.</p>                      <p>Student writes details on own paper with teacher.</p>
--	--

horseman lifted the great round head from his saddle, and he threw it with all his might, toward Ichabod Crane.

**Boom!** The projectile (or something moving through the air) smashed into the teacher like a cannonball. Black pain bloomed in his head. Ichabod Crane crashed from his horse and tumbled headlong into the dust. And the world went black.

- There are two lines that I want us to think about in this section. The first is: “Black pain bloomed in his head. What does that mean? [Pause] Have you ever been hit so hard in the head that everything goes black? Because Ichabod is hit with the round object by the horseman, the pain opens up in this head like a flowering blooming and makes him lose his vision.
- This line has a little different meaning: And the world went black. Do you know what it means? [Pause] Here it means that he passed out.
- OK... time to record what happened: [Add to chart]
  - Horseman rose in stirrups
  - Horseman threw round object at Ichabod
  - Ichabod crashed on the ground

[Show L10-C] The next morning, old Gunpowder was found cropping (or cutting) the grass at Farmer Van Ripper’s gate. And Ichabod Crane? He did not appear at breakfast. He did not show up for dinner. Searchers found his hat trampled in the dirt near the church. They found hoof tracks—two sets—dug deep into the road. They found one other thing: a shattered pumpkin.

All that remained of Ichabod Crane’s time in Tarry Town were a few belongings in his attic room: two shirts, two pairs of socks, an old pair of corduroy pants, and a dog-eared book of psalms.

- Ooo... lots of interesting facts to add! [Add to chart] Here is what I heard:
  - Ichabod’s horse showed up at house where he rents a room
  - Ichabod did not show up for meals the next day
  - Found at scene: two sets of hoofprints, Ichabod’s hat, shattered pumpkin
  - Ichabod’s belongings still in the room
- Why do you think the shattered pumpkin was at the scene based upon what we have read? [Pause] Based upon the horseman appearing to have a head on the

Student writes details on their own paper with teacher.

Student writes details on own paper with teacher.



<p>saddle in front of him and throwing something round at Ichabod, I wonder if what was thrown at Ichabod was really a pumpkin.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Time to finish our last paragraph.</li> </ul> <p>Some swore they'd seen the gangly (or skinny) schoolteacher in other towns. He was a shopkeeper now. Or a bookseller. Or a shadow sitting in somber (or gloomy) silence at an inn. But Brom Bones spread a different tale, of Ichabod Crane's frantic flight from the Headless Horseman. When he told the part about the smashed pumpkin he always winked at his bride—Katrina Van Brunt—and his eyes sparkled with laughter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I am going to read the last two lines again, but this time I want you to consider what you might infer about Brom's role in the Headless Horseman incident. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ But Brom Bones spread a different tale, of Ichabod Crane's frantic flight from the Headless Horseman. When he told the part about the smashed pumpkin he always winked at his bride—Katrina Van Brunt—and his eyes sparkled with laughter.</li> <li>○ This section is loaded with clues to Brom's role. What did you infer? Remember, with inferring, you are going to use what the text says and what you know. [Pause] It is really what Brom does that gives me the best clues. I noticed two main things: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ First, Katrina is referred to as Brom's bride – that means they are now married.</li> <li>▪ Second, when he tells the part of the story about the smashed pumpkin, he winks at Katrina and his eyes sparkle. When someone winks at someone during a story, it often means they are sharing a secret that no one else knows. I think Brom knows more about the smashed pumpkin – who knows ... maybe the Headless Horseman was Brom.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• For our chart, the only real fact that we could write as a reporter are <i>people have reported seeing Ichabod in other nearby towns</i>. [Add to chart]</li> </ul>	<p>Student writes details on own paper with teacher.</p>
<p><b>Guided Practice</b> (4 minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I hope you have enjoyed reading <i>The Legend of</i></li> </ul>	<p>Students follow along and think and act as instructed, gradually gaining</p>

<p><b>Sleepy Hollow with me as much as I have! It was a favorite of mine when I was a little girl.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>As we took down the details of the story during the lesson, we have created a chronological, or in time order, of the details as they happened. Now, we are going to use the list to pretend we are reporters writing an article about the incident.</b></li> <li>• <b>Here is your task: [Show chart]</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Pretend you are a reporter for the Sleepy Hollow Gazette. Report on the events that happened after Ichabod finds out Katrina is using him to make Brom jealous. Start reporting as Ichabod is leaving the Von Tassel party. At the end of the article, the editor of the paper has also asked you to include your opinion of what you think really happened at the scene using evidence you have uncovered.</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>What fun! I am going to help you get your newspaper article started, and you will finish on your own.</b></li> <li>• <b>Have you ever read a newspaper article? Articles always start with a catchy title. What do you think the title should be? [Pause] Here is my idea: [Reveal title on chart paper prepared beforehand] Local Teacher Disappears. What do you think? Feel free to use mine or create your own.</b></li> <li>• <b>Hmm... articles usually start with a date. If you remember the story is set at least 10 years after the start of the Revolutionary War. Since the war started in 1775, we need to make the date at least 1785. I think I will make it October 20, 1787. Can you use details from the story to explain why I made the month October? [Pause] Ahh...I bet you realized that a pumpkin was thrown in the story. We usually only have pumpkins in late fall.</b></li> <li>• <b>Let's start our sentence with the date, time of day, and a quick description of the party. Say aloud how you might write a sentence with these parts. [Pause]Here are my thoughts: [Reveal sentence on chart.] On the night of October 20, 1787, a party was held at the home of Farmer Von Tassel.</b></li> <li>• <b>Now, let's add the information of Ichabod Crane leaving on his horse and make up a time he left. Say aloud how you might write a sentence with these parts. [Pause and then reveal next sentence] At 8:00pm, Ichabod Crane, a guest at the party left in a hurry on his borrowed horse. Notice how I am just</b></li> </ul>	<p>confidence to write their own newspaper article about the Headless Horseman incident.</p>          <p>Student writes newspaper article with support.</p>
--	---

<p>reporting the facts. I think I will check off what I have used from our chart. [Check chart.]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We will do one more together. Let's make our next sentence about Ichabod humming and crossing the bridge by the church. You try first. [Pause and then reveal sentence.] Mr. Crane headed across the bridge by the church humming as he rode. I will check off the details I have used. [Check chart.]</li> <li>• Your job will be to finish telling the details like a reporter.</li> <li>• Before we end together, I want us to also talk about the second part of the task: At the end of the article, the editor of the paper has also asked you to include your opinion of what you think really happened at the scene using evidence you have uncovered.</li> <li>• Here are some questions I want you to consider. Turn your paper over and jot some ideas as I ask the questions. I will tell you what I might write as we go. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Do you think it was a Headless Horseman? [Pause] No, I really think it was Brom Bones; he probably left the party when Ichabod did.</li> <li>○ Was there a head really on the saddle? [Pause] No, I think the round object was the pumpkin.</li> <li>○ Was Brom Bones involved? [Pause] Yes! Yes! Yes!</li> <li>○ What evidence from the story would you use to support your opinion? [Pause] The pumpkin found at the scene was a big clue for me.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• After you are finished giving the facts, how might you start your opinion? [Pause]</li> <li>• Because I won't be with you when you start the opinion, here is how I might start the opinion sentence. [Show chart] Based upon my review of the evidence, it is my opinion that _____. I am basing my opinion on these pieces of evidence:</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Independent Work</b> (1 minute)</p> <p>Now, it is your turn to finish. I want to read the task again:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• [Show chart] Pretend you are a reporter for the Sleepy Hollow Gazette. Report on the events that happened after Ichabod finds out Katrina is using him to make Brom jealous. Start reporting as Ichabod is leaving the Von Tassel party. At the end of the article, the editor of the paper has also asked you to include your opinion of what you think really happened at the scene using evidence you have</li> </ul>	<p>Student will complete the newspaper article independently.</p>

<p>uncovered.</p> <p>Remember, the chart you created with me will be very helpful to use. Have fun! I so wish I could read your newspaper articles!</p>	
<p><b>Closing</b> (1 min)</p> <p>I enjoyed reading about the events in section five of <i>The Legend of Sleepy Hollow</i> with you today! This completes our lessons with this text. I hope you will join me again for our next lesson with a new text. Thank you for inviting me into your home. I look forward to seeing you in our next lesson in Tennessee's At Home Learning Series! Bye!</p>	



© Benchmark Education Company, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

Used with permission

<http://benchmarkeducation.com>