BEGINNER LEVEL

The Last Leaf and Other Stories by O. Henry

A Before Reading

1. Read about the author on pages 4 and 5. Find answers to these questions about O. Henry.
   (a) man/woman?  (b) British/American?  (c) criminal/good citizen?
   (d) good education/not much education?  (e) died at an old age/died young?

2. Read the titles of the stories on the Contents page. Make your choice. Write a number next to each title. (1 = most interesting, 5 = least interesting)
   - A Good Burglar
   - A Lesson in Love
   - The Jeweller’s Wife
   - The Last Leaf
   - The Car is Waiting

B While Reading

3. Annabel, please give me the rose from your dress.

   (a) What is Jimmy thinking?
   (b) What is Ben Price thinking?

THE LAST LEAF

4. ‘The last leaf has stayed on the vine. It has taught me a lesson.’
   What lesson has Johnsy learnt? (You can answer in your own language or in English.)

A LESSON IN LOVE

5. Fill in this chart with facts about Joe and Delia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Joe</th>
<th>Delia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>is a/an ....... student?</td>
<td></td>
<td>art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wants to be a ....... ?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>comes from ....... ?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lives in ....... ?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>has lessons from ....... ?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pretends to ....... ?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>really works at ....... ?</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE JEWELLER'S WIFE

6 Here is James Miggles' private notebook. Make his plan for the robbery from the jewellery store. Write short notes.

THE CAR IS WAITING

7 Join the information to the correct character in the story. You can use one word twice.

- has a big white car
- does an ordinary job
- cashier
- tired of money
- beautiful voice
- poor
- ordinary
- rich
- calm face
- has a chauffeur

C After Reading

8 Look at the map. Where do the people come from? Where do they live? Where do the stories happen? Draw lines to match the names and the stories to the places.

Thomas Keeling
A Good Burglar
Mr Parkenstacker
Mike Dolan
Delia
Jimmy Valentine
A Lesson in Love
James Miggles

Annabel Adams
Johnsy
The Jeweller's Wife
The Last Leaf
Sue
The Car is Waiting
Mr Robbins
Joe

9 Look at the file about James Miggles on page 54. Make a similar file for Jimmy Valentine and one for the author, O. Henry.

10 Think about a meeting between two characters from different stories. Write their conversation.