

Station 4 – Foreshadowing and Flashback

Students are reading a passage and answering questions about flashback.

STATION #4

**Answer the following questions
about flashback!**

The plane suddenly drops about one thousand feet, then steadies. The pilot's voice comes over the intercom system. "Just heading into some turbulence," she says, sounding matter-of-fact, as though this sort of thing happens all the time.

As the plane bumps and jerks, I hold fast to my armrests, praying that I won't die. I find myself thinking of my cousin Fiona and wishing she were on the plane. If anyone could calm my fears, Fiona could.

I close my eyes and think back to that other time when I was frightened. Remember what that was like, I thought. You were okay then, and you'll be okay now.

It was the summer of my ninth birthday. Fiona's and my parents had rented a cottage by the beach. "Let's climb down the rocks," Fiona announced one day. I was terrified, but I swallowed my fear and forced myself to follow her. I lowered my weight onto the rock, found my balance, and shifted my grip. And then it happened. My foot slipped. I skittered down the sheer rock wall, feeling the skin on my arms and legs shearing off as I tried to grab hold of something.

By some miracle, I managed to catch an edge of stone and steady myself with one foot. But I was frightened now, still high above the water and rocks that stretched threateningly beneath me, and I was stuck.

I'll never forget Fiona's voice. Calm, assuring, almost hypnotic, it came to me as if from a great distance. "Don't worry," she said. "Just stay calm. I'm coming. I'm almost there."

Her hand stretched out to meet mine. I trusted her grip. Pulling at Fiona with all my weight, I shimmied up to safety.

Now, as I sit here strapped into the plane, I close my eyes and think of Fiona's voice. I hear her saying, "Everything's going to be fine." A calm spreads over me. I smile and begin to look forward to landing.

Station 5 – Foreshadowing and Flashback

Students are reading a passage and answering questions about foreshadowing.

STATION #5

**Answer the following questions
about foreshadowing!**

The soldiers lay on the ground, wrapped in their worn coats and cloaks, sleeping fitfully. Across the length of a vast field, they could see the lights of the enemy campfires, small flickering points in the darkness.

The general, wandering quietly through the camp, spoke warmly to the men he saw were not asleep. He had a good and a thoughtful word for them all, but the situation was desperate and he knew it. They were in a foreign land, under a foreign sky, and the soldiers feared they would never see their homes again.

Even the stars above them were unfamiliar and held no comfort. One of the officers, approaching the general in gloom, said as much.

"I can't get my bearings here. I don't know any of the constellations. It seems strange to look up at the stars and recognize nothing," said the officer.

As the two men gazed up, they saw a shooting star flash across the inky black void and burn out, then another and another. The two men watched in silence as a shower of meteors filled the heavens for a few brief moments. It was an extraordinary, frightening sight, as each object was struggling to shine brightly only to die away to nothingness in the next instant. Unnerved, the officer turned to the general with a troubled face. The general returned his gaze and nodded sadly. His shoulders sagging, he turned and walked slowly back to his tent without saying another word.

The officer looked up once more at the night sky. The meteor shower had ended and the heavens were still once more. The officer closed his eyes and took a shaky breath, then began walking back to his own tent. He needed to get some sleep. Dawn and the coming battle were just hours away.