Sample Lesson (Voyage of the Dawn Treader)

1. Describing Eustace’s Character

This task asks students, working in pairs, to describe (on the left) Eustace’s character before becoming a dragon, using their list of 100 Vice Words. Then they describe, on the right side, his character after he becomes a dragon, drawing from their list of 100 Virtue Words.

Before becoming a dragon (below are examples of vice words):

- **Dishonest** – He tries to steal the water.
- **Disinterested** – He just wants to get off the ship.
- **Rude and surly** – He talks to Caspian in a rude manner.
- **Ungrateful** – after Caspian and Edmund are kind to him.

After becoming a dragon (annotate using virtue words):

2. Class Discussion of Eustace

- What is your impression of Eustace before becoming a dragon?
- How would you feel if Eustace were your cousin? Why?
- Do you have any sympathy for him? Why or why not?
- How does Eustace’s character change after he becomes a dragon? (see below)

From Chapter 7, C.S. Lewis’ Voyage of the Dawn Treader

It was, however, clear to everyone that Eustace’s character had been rather improved by becoming a dragon. He was anxious to help. One day, flying slowly and wearily but in great triumph, he bore back to camp a great tall pine tree which he had torn up by the roots in a distant valley and which could be made into a capital mast. And in the evening if it turned chilly, as it sometimes did after the heavy rains, he was a comfort to everyone, for the whole party would come and sit with their backs against his hot sides and get well warmed and dried; and one puff of his fiery breath would light the most obstinate fire. Sometimes he would take a select party for a fly on his back, so that they could see wheeling below them the green slopes, the rocky heights, the narrow pit-like valleys ...