

# **Weak Verbs and Words Dead and Gone**



**Lay to rest those words  
that make writing  
bland and boring.**



**ELA Core Plans**  
Teacher-Written Standards-Based Lesson Plans

# **Teaching Unit**

## ***Weak Verbs and Words***

### ***Dead and Gone***

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### **Sample Packet**

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**The highlighted pages are yours free. Scroll down to print!**

# **Dead Word Funeral**

## **Teacher Notes**

**Objective:** Students will “bury” weak words, and no longer use them in their class writing assignments.

**Purpose:** After burying the “dead words”, students will use strong action verbs and specific adjectives in their writing.

**Materials needed:**

**Casket**

**Music – CD player**

**Procedures to prepare for funeral:**

- **Find something to use as a casket. You may be able to borrow a small “demo casket” from a local funeral home. Or, you can make your own by placing black cloth or a black sheet around a storage crate or box. You may also want some flowers to place on top of the casket.**
- **Find some instrumental music to be played as the students walk out to the funeral.**
- **You may want to have cupcakes or cake squares to serve after the service. You can write some of the “dead words” on each. ☺**
- **Decide on the order of your service. (A sample is provided in this unit.)**
- **Explain the difference between strong verbs and weak verbs, specific adjectives and overused, simple adjectives.**
- **Explain the difference between a eulogy and an obituary and show examples. (Examples are provided in packet.)**
- **You may want to make a bulletin board for the obituaries.**
- **For struggling writers, you may want to use the fill-in-the-blank eulogy and obituary. (Fill-in-the-blank eulogies and obituaries are provided in packet.)**
- **Rehearse the songs for the funeral. (Songs are provided in packet.)**



## Prepare for the Dead Word Funeral!

Date of the service \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

- ❖ Please wear black or something dressy to school on this day as we will be in mourning.

Choose a weak verb or overused, simple adjective to lay to rest. \_\_\_\_\_

- ❖ Prepare an obituary for your word.
- ❖ Prepare a eulogy for your weak word.
- ❖ Write your word on a sheet of paper or index card. Decorate the word however you wish. This is what you will place in the casket on the day of the funeral.
- ❖ You will be reading your eulogy at the service. You do not have to ad lib, but you can dramatize as much as you wish. Kleenex will be provided for your tears.

### How you will be graded

(20 points) Your obituary is complete, neat, and contains all necessary information.

(20 points) Your eulogy is complete, creative, neat, and contains all necessary information.

(20 points) Your word on a sheet of paper or notecard is neat, and drawings and/or decorations are creative.

(20 points) Your participation as a funeral attendee was appropriate and not disruptive.

(20 points) Overall creativity, neatness, and acting skills (You acted like you were sad when you read your eulogy.)

Download the complete teaching packet [\*Weak Words Dead and Gone\*](#) to hold your own Dead Word Funeral, and you will have everything listed in the table of contents. Have fun!

**Also, if you enjoyed this teaching unit, visit our website: [www.sandtpublications.com](http://www.sandtpublications.com)!**

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