

Brainstorming in the Mansion for the First Five-Minute Object Lesson Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens 2026 Mansion Docent Training

Choose an object that is a likely candidate for the French object you will present on for your first Five-Minute Object Lesson. Use this worksheet to write down your thoughts for each step of developing a lesson plan. This is practice for writing your lesson plan for your Five-Minute Object Lesson. Feel free to ask Lisa and Audra questions.

1. *Identify your audience...who are they? Think about their needs...what are they?*
2. *Stand in front of the object you have chosen. What is it and where is it located?*
3. *"Read" the object. Look carefully and brainstorm what you see and what you know about the object. (You would do research on your own at home.)*
4. *Distill the brainstorm in Question 3 down to three big ideas about its style, function and production.*

First big idea:

Second big idea:

Third big idea:

Turn over, please

5. *List a few questions you could ask your audience that introduces each of the three big ideas brainstormed in Question 4.*

Question(s) for Big Idea #1:

Question(s) for Big Idea #2:

Question(s) for Big Idea #3:

6. *Write several objectives for the lesson that are clear, defined and use action verbs by completing the following sentence.*

After completing this lesson, visitors will be better able to:

- 1.

- 2.

7. *Develop an introduction with an advance organizer that does three things: finds out a bit about what the audience knows, lets them know where you are going with this object (your theme), and arouses their curiosity or challenges them to think.*

8. *Develop an introductory "hook" question – a question that grabs their attention.*

9. *Write a conclusion that sums up the lesson and refers back to your objectives.*

10. *Write a question that assesses what the visitors will take away from your lesson.*