



ELA Virtual Learning

8th Grade

Analyzing Literature

April 20, 2020



8th Grade ELA

Lesson: April 20, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

- I can analyze the story elements while I read and use evidence to support my reasoning.
- Write responses using complete sentences with standard spelling, punctuation, and grammar.

Warm Up

The short story you'll be reading for this lesson is heavily dialogue-driven. On a blank sheet of paper, jot down your answers to the following warm up dialogue questions:

1. Finish the sentence: Dialogue is when characters _____.
2. How does dialogue look different from normal text?
3. How do you know when each character is talking?
4. How powerful is technology in relation to society?





Warm Up **Answers**

The short story you'll be reading for this lesson is heavily dialogue driven. On a blank sheet of paper, jot down your answers to the following warm up dialogue questions:

1. Finish the sentence: Dialogue is when characters _____.
 - are speaking to one another
2. How does dialogue look different from normal text?
 - There are quotations around what characters say
3. How do you know when each character is talking?
 - A new line (or paragraph) is started each time a character speaks
4. How powerful is technology in relation to society?
 - Answers vary based on your opinion



Learn: Getting Started

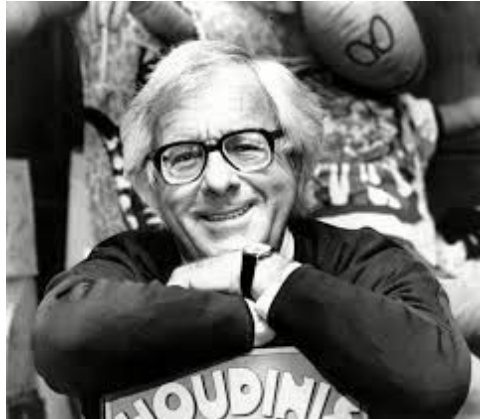
While reading “The Murderer” by Ray Bradbury, you’ll need a blank sheet of paper to take notes on. Choose one of the two options given to take notes in a way that works for you:

1. A Plot Line (Slide 6- this is very detailed, you can scale it down)
2. Cornell Notes (Slide 7)

You can access “The Murderer” using this [LINK](#).

*Remember, when reading columns, read the left, then the right

*There are also footnotes with definitions to aid you while reading



Plot

-The story's sequence of events
(Exposition, Rising Action,
Climax, Falling Action,
Resolution [see boxes])

-Flashbacks _____

-Foreshadowing _____

-Flashforwards _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

(4) Falling Action

-Conflict outcome _____

-Resulting events _____

(3) Climax

-Point of greatest tension

(1) Exposition Setting

-Place _____

-Time _____

-Characters

-Main _____

-Secondary _____

Mood

Point of View

(2) Rising Action Character Roles

-Protagonist(s) _____

-Antagonist(s) _____

Conflict

Mood

(5) Resolution

-Final outcome _____

Theme

-Story's meaning _____

Author's Purpose
(Persuade, inform, entertain, teach, etc.)

	Topic/Unit: Analyzing Literature: "The Murderer"	Name:
		Class/Period:
		Date:
I can... Analyze the plot elements in "The Murderer" and specify each one in Cornell Notes (focused notes) format.		
Leave this column blank for now	Questions/Main Ideas:	Notes: Setting -
		Characters PLUS protagonist & antagonist -
		Beginning (exposition) -
		Rising Action -
		Climax -
		Falling Action -
		Resolution -
		Conflict -
		Theme -

1 - In the right-hand column, highlight the most important points, key words & phrases.

2 - THEN in the left hand column, write down any questions or the main ideas you pulled from the story and/or video.

Learn Answer Key



- **Exposition:** Futuristic society where everyone relies and uses technology for everything. Mr. Albert Brock is being questioned by a psychiatrist in a psychiatric facility where he tells his story in a flashback.
- **Rising Action:**
 - Brock “murdered” the following objects:
 - Telephone in the garbage disposal
 - Shot the TV
 - Water in the Intercommunication Systems
 - Ice cream in the car transmitter
 - Used a portable diathermy machine on the bus
- **Climax:** Went home to “murder” his house where his wife called the police and he was arrested.
- **Falling Action:** Brock was taken to a psychiatric facility to be evaluated
- **Resolution:** Albert Brock’s prognosis will not change. He will remain in the psychiatric facility where he is able to avoid technology and society’s expectations of technology usage-which is where he wants to be.

Practice



On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions using at least **one** piece of evidence from the text:

1. Why does Brock refer to himself as a “minority” on the bottom right of page three?
2. Is there power in being part of a minority?
3. Even though this story was written in the 1950s, in what ways has Ray Bradbury predicted the future?
4. In what ways (choose one or two) does Bradbury’s “The Murderer” reflect current social issues?

Answer Key



Answers to the following questions will widely vary, but here are a few notes to make sure you're in the right direction (however, make sure your answers have cited text examples):

1. Why does Brock refer to himself as a “minority” on the bottom right of page three? **Brock is the minority because he doesn't like using technology like the rest of society.**
2. Is there power in being part of a minority? **This question can be answered either way as long as it is textually supported.**
3. Even though this story was written in the 1950s, in what ways has Ray Bradbury predicted the future? **The wrist watch is like a Smart Watch, the kitchen insinkerator is a garbage disposal, his house is like a Smart House, etc.**
4. In what ways (choose one or two) does Bradbury's “The Murderer” reflect current social issues?
 - a. **Society is enthralled with getting new technology from a TV, game console, iPhone, etc.**
 - b. **People heavily use technology: social media, YouTube, online classes, etc.**
 - c. **When going to restaurants, families are engrossed in their technology instead of conversing with one another.**
 - d. **And many more...**

Additional Resources

Several of Bradbury's written works show how technology has taken over. Feel free to Google or check out the following titles of his:

- ["The Veldt"](#)
- ["There Will Come Soft Rains"](#)
- ["A Sound of Thunder"](#)
- [*Fahrenheit 451*](#) (novel and also a movie on HBO)



Should you be interested in some nonfiction reads on technology usage, check these out:

- [Technology Addiction](#)
- [How Does Technology Affect Your Health? The Good, the Bad, and Tips for Use](#)