



ELA Virtual Learning

Creative Writing

April 14, 2020



Creative Writing

Lesson: Tues., April 14

Objective/Learning Target: Students will explore the idea of characterization in fiction and understand how dialogue shapes our understanding of character.



Creative Writing Lesson: Tues., April 14

Reference: [“The End of Something”](#) by Ernest Hemingway

Yesterday, we read this story. If you missed it, go ahead and read it now. (It’s short!)



Creative Writing

Lesson: Tues., April 14

Write: In your journal, write about the main character, Nick Adams. What do we know about him? List at least three characteristics. How do we know these things about him? What details or suggestions does Hemingway provide us to help us understand his character?



Creative Writing

Lesson: Tues., April 14

In writing fiction, characterization is often achieved through what Hemingway called the Theory of Omission. We also refer to this as subtext--like an iceberg, there's far more underneath the surface than what appears above. A few strokes is all the "creative reader" needs to understand character (as well as setting, etc.).



Creative Writing

Lesson: Tues., April 14

Practice: Use this [Character Sketch worksheet](#) to illustrate how select details help us understand the main character, Nick, in “The End of Something.” Complete all the information you know. Some information, like date of birth, will be left blank.

Example (for Marjorie): [Character Sketch Model](#)



What does good dialogue do?

- reveals character
- creates conflict / tension
- moves the story forward
- creates a sense of authenticity



Creative Writing

Lesson: Tues., April 14

Additional Practice/Resources:

[How to Format Dialogue in Fiction](#)