ELA Virtual Learning

A.P. English Lit. and Comp.

May 19, 2020

Lesson: **May 19, 2020**

Objective/Learning Target:
Students will be able to effectively analyze setting to find meaning in an AP worthy text .

Success Starter

Directions: On a sheet of paper, reflect- what are some of the most revealing settings you've encountered in a text, or a show you have watched? What made these settings memorable and effective?

Example: Hogwarts in Harry Potter- specifically the moving staircases. This just makes Hogwarts more magical and intimidating. It also contributes to the drama and reveals inner conflict of the story. Can you imagine your way to class randomly changing on you on your way there? Stress!

Setting

The setting in a text is the "when" and "where" of a story. However, "when" and "where" also encompasses more than just immediate surroundings and time period. Setting can give us a lot of information and insight into characters, conflicts, both external and internal, societal expectations, as well as add foreshadowing and drama.

Time of day, housing, season, current weather, temperature, lighting, indoors vs outdoors, colors, location; country of origin, city, rural, island… these things and many more must be considered when reflecting on a setting in order to properly analyze the text's meaning.

Setting

Directions:

Read the following excerpt from Chapter one of Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird. On the same sheet of paper you used for the success starter, jot down context clues and imagery you come across that reveal to you what Maycomb is like as a town. What are some potential conflicts you can begin to see already? How does the setting help reveal those conflicts?

To Kill a Mockingbird excerpt

Context Clues and Imagery Sample

Directions: Compare your notes and answers to those below. Your examples may differ.

The town runs slow because it is old and hot.
Images: "old town", "tired old town", "courthouse sagged", "Somehow, it was hotter then: a black dog suffered on a summer's day"

People are poor and tired.
Images: "bony mules", "People moved slowly", "took their time about everything", " There was no hurry, for there was nowhere to go, nothing to buy and no money to buy it with"

Potential conflict: Little Kids playing outside in the summer getting into trouble.
Images to support this: Calpurnia has a "tyrannical presence", the boundaries of their playing are described in detail

Potential conflict: Jem having misunderstandings with the narrator- she doesn't remember their mom but he does.
Images to support this: It bothers him whereas it doesn't bother her because she doesn't remember their mom.
"sometimes in the middle of a game he would sigh at length, then go off and play by himself behind the car-house"

Analyze Setting Practice

Directions: Read excerpt from "Wuthering Heights" by Emily Bronte.

On the same sheet of paper you used for your To Kill a Mockingbird notes, jot down context clues and imagery you come across that reveal to you what Heathcliff is like as a person. What are some potential conflicts you can begin to see already? How does the setting help reveal those conflicts?

Wuthering Heights excerpt

Wuthering Heights Example

Directions: Compare your notes and answers to those below. Your examples may differ.

Heathcliff is a hermit. He can be seen as unfriendly, stoic, icy,
Supports: He doesn't speak when meeting Lockwood- he just nods. "...he interrupted, wincing", 'walk in' was uttered with closed teeth, and expressed the sentiment, 'Go to the Deuce:' "his attitude at the door appeared to demand my speedy entrance, or complete departure"

Heathcliff's house is called "Wuthering Heights" and "wuthering" describes the house, Heathcliff, and his house help.
Images: Joseph: "looking, meantime, in my face so sourly that I charitably conjectured he must have need of divine aid"
Heathcliff: "in dress and manners a gentleman: that is, as much a gentleman as many a country squire: rather slovenly, perhaps, yet not looking amiss with his negligence"

Potential conflict:Heathcliff has inner turmoil that he hides unnaturally
 "in dress and manners a gentleman: that is, as much a gentleman as many a country squire: rather slovenly, perhaps, yet not looking amiss with his negligence", "But Mr. Heathcliff forms a singular contrast to his abode and style of living."

Potential conflict: Heathcliff vs society: Heathcliff does not enjoy interacting with Lockwood, and he keeps himself isolated and away from people. His house is dilapidated on the outside and void of genuine warmth or greeting.

Closing Reflection

Directions:

Choose one of your own life's settings: The summer? Or your great room/ living room?

On this same sheet of paper, respond to the following questions: What does this setting reveal about your character, your life, or conflicts you deal with? What does your setting say about you?

Example: My great room/living room; first of all- it looks like a tornado hit it. Clothes, books, bags, shoes, boxes- everywhere. At first glance, you may think I'm a slob- but I'm not. It screams chaos and of a family who is overwhelmed with no time- that is true. It shows our stress level as a family fairly accurately. So- my settings says I am an overly-active person with no time to sort and organize who's frustrated- with little to no help.

Additional Resource

Videos:

Setting in Literature: AP English Literature/ College Board

The Importance of Setting in Storytelling