



ELA Virtual Learning

English 218 Introduction to Literature

Lesson: May 22, 2020



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Objective/Learning Target:

- Evaluate the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a text.



Bell Ringer:

Of all of the literature, what did you best like reading this semester and why?

****Start a document to record your response to this and the work which follows on later slides.**

Reflect

This semester, you read short stories, poetry, plays - drama and comedy, and a novel. To wrap up this semester, I would like for you to reflect upon all of what we have read and give some feedback about what you have liked and also not liked. I read these and think about your comments when I plan for each new semester of Introduction to Literature. To proceed, first let's look back on our semester.

We started with the short story unit. One-by-one, we read short stories from a variety of amazing authors. In reading, you learned many of the elements of short stories and wrote about them, first in the method of the TWIST, then the Key Passage Analysis (KPA).

Reflect

Short stories:

- “Berenice,” Edgar Allen Poe (1835) - handout
- “A White Heron,” Sarah Orne Jewett handout
- “Chickamauga,” Ambrose Bierce (1870s?) handout
- “The Veldt,” Ray Bradbury (1951) pp. 155-165
- “Letter to the Earth” Mark Twain (1910?) handout
- “Hills Like White Elephants,” Ernest Hemingway (1927)

Then, we moved on to poetry. We read a wide variety of poetry, from classic (Emily Dickinson) to modern (Billy Collins). We read poetry from Thomas Hardy, Robert Frost, Lord Byron and others. We discussed the author’s choices in poetry, such as word choice and order, connotation and denotation, voice, etc.

Reflect

Along the way, you wrote periodically, reflecting on what you had read. Following the poetry unit, you wrote an essay.

We then moved to plays, beginning with drama. We learned some about special elements of reading a play and you read a short drama called, “Trifles”, by Susan Glaspell. Then we went into quarantine.

We moved on to a novel - *the curious incident of the dog in the night-time*, by Mark Haddon. We learned about some of the elements of literature for a longer piece, and you were introduced to a few new ones, such as the use of visual elements, like graphics. Along the way, we focused more closely on literary elements like tone, point of view, and characterization.

Following the novel, you wrote a full literary analysis - your argumentative paper dissecting some of Mark Haddon’s choices.

Reflect

To finish out our semester, I brought in a bit of the classic - the Bard himself - and we read Shakespeare's comedy, *Twelfth Night*. Though reading Shakespeare does involve many of the literary elements we studied through short stories and the novel, it also brings some of the uniquely-Shakespeare touches - the use of prose, iambic pentameter and rhyming couplets in a play; recurring character types, like the fool; gender bending, twins and other forms of mix-ups; and just the unique writing form of all things Shakespeare. All of this was delivered in an amusing love story.

I hope this semester was a good one, despite the unusual nature of how we completed the second half. I love teaching literature, and I hope you have enjoyed some, maybe even most, of what we have read. I also hope you will take what you have learned and apply it to your own reading choices. Finally, I hope you will READ! Knowing what you like and why should open more doors to reading, because there is a virtually limitless supply of wonderful literature out there.

Final Personal Reflection

Please respond honestly to this last personal reflection. I would love your feedback. Please make a copy of the document and add your responses.

[Introduction to Literature - Final Course Reflection](#)

Response Criteria

(Answers will Vary)

- Check your written response to make sure it meets the following criteria:
 - Did you write in complete sentences?
 - Did you use standard conventions (spelling, punctuation, grammar)?
 - Did you answer the questions?
 - Did you use MLA formatting in all things, including a proper MLA header?

Sample Appropriate Response:

Bellringer - Responses will vary, but should provide a response about something read this semester.

One last thing - additional resources

Though we had to finish in unusual circumstances (understatement), I want you to know that I have loved having you in class and reading amazing literature with you. As you move forward - most of you on to college - remember that I am here for you, only a quick email away. If I can help you in any way, just ask. I wish you all the best and I know you will kill it at college!

I leave you with this - [100 Books to Read Before You Die](#) - this is a good list of classics AND it includes our novel from this semester! This list has a brief description of each book, so browse through and see if you can find your next read. Another alternative is the PBS series, [The Great American Read](#), in which many great books are described and a #1 winner was chosen.

When the world closes in on you, reach for a book!