

Subject Area: English Language Arts
Unit Title: Analyzing Central Ideas in Historical American Speeches and Essays
Grade Level: 9-10
Lesson Number: 1 of 5

Duration: 60 minutes
Date: March 10, 2023
Teacher: Ms. Johnson
Room: 205

Curriculum Standards Alignment

Content Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.1
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.9-10.2
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.1

Skills Standards:

- Critical thinking
- Analysis
- Writing

Cross-Curricular Links:

- History
- Government
- Language Arts

Essential Questions & Big Ideas

Essential Questions:

- What are the central ideas of historical American speeches and essays?
- How do authors use rhetorical devices and literary techniques to convey their message?

Enduring Understandings:

- Historical American speeches and essays convey important ideas and themes that are still relevant today.
- Authors use various techniques to engage and persuade their audience.

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Student Context Analysis

Class Profile:

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

Learning Styles Distribution:

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%

Pre-Lesson Preparation

Room Setup:

- Arrange desks in a U-shape to facilitate discussion.
- Ensure all students have access to a computer or tablet.

Technology Needs:

- Online database of historical American speeches and essays.
- Online annotation tool.

Materials Preparation:

- Copies of historical American speeches and essays.
- Whiteboard and markers.

Safety Considerations:

- Ensure all students are aware of the classroom rules and expectations.

Detailed Lesson Flow

Introduction (5 minutes)

- Introduce the topic of analyzing central ideas in historical American speeches and essays.
- Ask students if they have ever heard a speech or read an essay that inspired them to think differently about an issue.

Historical Context (10 minutes)

- Provide a brief background on the historical context of the selected speeches and essays.
- Use multimedia resources such as videos, images, and audio recordings to engage students.

Reading and Annotation (15 minutes)

- Distribute the selected speeches and essays.
- Ask students to read and annotate the texts, identifying the central ideas and main arguments.

Guidance on Annotation:

- Highlight or underline important phrases and sentences.
- Use margin notes to record questions and observations.

Class Discussion (15 minutes)

- Lead a class discussion on the central ideas and main arguments presented in the texts.
- Ask students to share their findings and provide guidance on how to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the arguments.

Guidance on Evaluation:

- Use textual evidence to support analysis.

- Consider multiple perspectives and interpretations of the text.

Writing Activity (20 minutes)

- Provide a writing prompt, asking students to write a short essay analyzing the central idea of one of the selected speeches or essays.
- Provide guidance on how to structure the essay, using techniques such as introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.

Conclusion (10 minutes)

- Conclude the lesson by asking students to share their essays.
- Provide feedback and guidance on how to improve their analysis and writing skills.

Differentiation & Support Strategies

For Struggling Learners:

- Provide additional support and guidance during the reading and annotation activity.
- Offer one-on-one assistance during the writing activity.

For Advanced Learners:

- Provide additional challenges and extensions, such as analyzing multiple texts or creating a multimedia presentation.
- Encourage students to take on a leadership role during the class discussion.

ELL Support Strategies:

- Provide visual aids and graphic organizers to support comprehension.
- Offer bilingual resources and support.

Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Encourage students to reflect on their own thoughts and feelings about the texts.
- Provide opportunities for students to share their perspectives and listen to others.

Assessment & Feedback Plan

Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Participation in class discussion and activities.
- Quality of written analysis.

Success Criteria:

- Students can identify and analyze the central ideas and main arguments of historical American speeches and essays.
- Students can evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the arguments.

Feedback Methods:

- Verbal feedback during class discussion and activities.
- Written feedback on student essays

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Homework & Extension Activities

Homework Assignment:

Ask students to read and annotate a selected speech or essay for the next class.

Extension Activities:

- Debate a historical issue related to a speech or essay.
- Create a podcast or video analyzing a historical American speech or essay.

Parent/Guardian Connection:

Ask parents/guardians to discuss with their child what they learned in class and how they can apply it to their everyday lives.

Teacher Reflection Space

Pre-Lesson Reflection:

- What challenges do I anticipate?
- Which students might need extra support?
- What backup plans should I have ready?

Post-Lesson Reflection:

- What went well?
- What would I change?
- Next steps for instruction?

Historical Context of Historical American Speeches and Essays

Introduction:

Historical American speeches and essays convey important ideas and themes that are still relevant today.

Historical Context:

- The American Revolution.
- The Civil War.
- The Civil Rights Movement.

Key Figures and Events

Key Figures:

- George Washington.
- Abraham Lincoln.
- Martin Luther King Jr.

Key Events:

- The signing of the Declaration of Independence.
- The Emancipation Proclamation.
- The March on Washington.

Social and Cultural Context

Social Context:

- The role of women in society.
- The treatment of African Americans.
- The impact of immigration.

Cultural Context:

- The influence of literature and art.
- The role of music and entertainment.
- The impact of technology.

Reading and Annotation Strategies

Introduction:

Reading and annotating a text is an essential step in analyzing the central idea and main arguments.

Guidance on Annotation:

- Highlight or underline important phrases and sentences.
- Use margin notes to record questions and observations.

Textual Evidence

Introduction:

Textual evidence is essential in supporting analysis and arguments.

Types of Textual Evidence:

- Quotes.
- Examples.
- Statistics.

Annotation Techniques

Introduction:

Annotation techniques can help students engage with the text and identify key phrases and ideas.

Types of Annotation Techniques:

- Highlighting.
- Underlining.
- Margin notes.

Class Discussion Strategies

Introduction:

Class discussion is an essential part of analyzing the central idea and main arguments of a text.

Guidance on Leading a Class Discussion:

- Encourage students to share their thoughts and ideas.
- Provide guidance on how to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the arguments.

Encouraging Participation

Introduction:

Encouraging participation is essential in a class discussion.

Strategies for Encouraging Participation:

- Ask open-ended questions.
- Provide opportunities for students to share their thoughts and ideas.

Evaluating Arguments

Introduction:

Evaluating arguments is an essential part of analyzing the central idea and main arguments of a text.

Guidance on Evaluating Arguments:

- Consider multiple perspectives and interpretations of the text.
- Use textual evidence to support analysis.

Writing Activity

Introduction:

Writing a short essay analyzing the central idea of a historical American speech or essay is an essential part of the lesson.

Guidance on Writing the Essay:

- Provide a clear and concise thesis statement.
- Use textual evidence to support analysis.

Essay Structure

Introduction:

The essay should have a clear introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion.

Guidance on Essay Structure:

- Introduction: Introduce the topic and provide a thesis statement.
- Body Paragraphs: Provide evidence and analysis to support the thesis statement.
- Conclusion: Summarize the main points and reiterate the thesis statement.

Conclusion

Introduction:

In conclusion, analyzing the central ideas of historical American speeches and essays is a crucial skill for students to develop.

Final Thoughts:

- Students should be able to identify and analyze the central ideas and main arguments of historical American speeches and essays.
- Students should be able to evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the arguments.

