

## **A Freewrite Friday Assignment**

- Read chapter 21 of The Little Prince by Antoine de St. Exupery
- Watch video connection: Neil Hilborn poem on OCD
- <http://youtube.com/watch?v=vnKZ4pdSU-s>
- Writing Prompt: What are our responsibilities when we enter into a relationship with another person?

## **Parody Project**

- 2 page summary of work
- Why considered noteworthy read
- Works Cited
- Embed quotes
- Cover Page Stapled
- Rubric
- 1 Page Summation of scene and why
- Video 3 minutes 1 minute oral presentation = Total 4 minutes

## **Wedding Shower for Claudius and Gertrude**

- Ss each bring a gift

## **Graded Discussion**

- Try to make it a success even for introverts (always option to present only to teacher)
- First time 3 people, the 2 then alone
- “Can of Worms” Trivia Game but presented as “Oral quiz or Seminar”
- Cut strips with different elements of the work (quotes from the text, characters.....)
- Kid comes up and picks a tab:
  - could be easy or difficult
- Easily graded: 70, 80, 90
- If you can identify quote = C
- Add
- Tie it to a theme = 90
- Exceptionally insightful = 100
  - EX: Pull Jordan: “plays tennis and friends with Daisy” = 70%
- Some tabs are easy (west or east egg) put them on the side so if a student isn’t prepared give them a side tab
- Trick them into reading”
- Tell them beforehand so they will be prepared.
- The pressure of public speaking motivates them to actually read

## **‘Speed Reading’**

- Set books up all over the library
- Read 1st or last chapter and write a little blurb about it and move on
- Must choose one book by the end

### **Virtual Reading Experience**

- Virtual classroom museum: various media sources (iTunes, youtube, images, etc.) providing social, cultural, political time period of the work
- Visit virtual exhibits and write a synthesis essay about it
- compare contrast music recordings and literary works

### **Bloom's Wheel / iPadagogy**

- Find these great resources at the end of the UT API link at [www.jerrywbrown.com](http://www.jerrywbrown.com)

### **"I Didn't Say Mary Stole That Purse"**

- Say it with variety of inflection
- Students write down different meanings
- Illustrates how difficult it is to convert tone with words

### **Introduction to Theme Before a New Work**

- Read ch.21 of The Little Prince (Fox asks the Prince to tame him)
- Discuss last line of the chapter "We are forever responsible for what we tame."
- Show video clip of guy discussing obsessive compulsive disorder  
[www.buttonpoetry.com](http://www.buttonpoetry.com)
- Writing Prompt: "What are our responsibilities to the people we get into relationships with?"

### **"It's Debatable" (2 class periods)**

- Good way to introduce new work
- anticipatory guide: 10 -15 scenarios / questions that they will encounter in the work
- split into 2 groups (A = agree #'s 1 - 5 and B = disagree #'s 6 - 10)
- 2 minutes to prep for a certain scenario, discuss as a group
- Each side has 45 secs to present (only one person can speak at a time at all times)
- After each 45 secs free to go back and forth 1.5 minutes each
- Teacher decides which team was most persuasive
- Noticed even the shy guys participated as everyone felt impassioned

-Did this for The Crucible and Night

### **Introduce Persuasive Essay Debate Activity**

- Short story: Most Dangerous Game
- Presents newspaper article about a father and son hunting, father has accidentally killed son
- Debate becomes: how should the father be punished?
- Journal entry: what side are you on?
- Divide into three groups: Go to Jail, Punished Enough, Undecided
- Each group presents to the Undecided in courtroom-like setting
- 5 minutes for each side

### **Debate Activity**

- Research both sides
- Don't know which side they are going to be on
- 2 kids get assigned affirmative / negative
- other kids grading the debate
- Hot Topics: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About the 50 Major Controversies Everyone Pretends to Know Everything About by Daniel Storer (out of print :/ )

### **Intro for Meaty Topics** (Transcendentalism, Existentialism, etc...)

- Checklist for each of the topics so the students have something to reference
- Pre-Transcendentalists presents "A Noiseless, Patient Spider" by Walt Whitman
- "Extending himself into the universe to discover something about the nature of himself"
- Now ready to discuss 'Transcendentalism'

### **Distinguish Between Tone vs Mood**

- Show a movie they know and then the recast version
- Discuss differences: What was the director trying to convey? How?
- Ex: The Shining recast as comedy, Ferris Bueler as a tragedy, 6th Sense as a Comedy on youtube: "The Shining Funny"
- Students stumped on tone or mood can now reference "Use your 6th Sense" throughout the year

### **Book Trailer**

- Act out whatever scene they want from a short story, drama, play with music and subtitles
- Have students look at examples on YouTube

- Show the process to be certain they aren't stealing from YouTube
- Students tech savvy: MovieMaker or different apps
- No two students may do the same work
- Sign-in list
- Good for after test
- Can choose to work in groups (no more than 4) or solo
- Option to just use images
- End of project students provide anonymous evaluation of each member's participation

## Summer Reading

- Mini-powerpoint on first few chapters of How to Read Literature Like a Professor (notes from this book on UT APSI on [www.jerrywbrown.com](http://www.jerrywbrown.com))
- Summer choice: How to Read Literature Like a Professor and Tale of Two Cities or Wuthering Heights
- Write about a scene where two characters eat together
- First 3 weeks: chapter then ppt: mini- writing assignment
- Ex: chapter on symbol, they create a
- Advice, don't beat down the students that couldn't get to summer reading
- Boerne High School Cheryl Majetich (Steal my curriculum including pots!)  
[teacherweb.com](http://teacherweb.com) Texas, Boerne High School, Majetich

## Poem-a-Day

- Provide rubric, 9 questions, poem
- Glue poem into composition notebook
- HW answer questions
- Begin every class with poetry discussion
- Draw a name for discussion
- Even introverts can simply read their answers
- Even the jocks now love poetry!
- Class discussion students must take notes (some do it in different color)
- Teacher also keeps notebook, can keep from year to year
- Major grade, graded every 9 weeks

## End of Year Cheryl

- Find non-American author
- Can't pick same author
- 'Real' research
- Create bibliography
- Create visual

- Identify 20 milestones (personal, professional, literary...)
- Present best 3-4 milestones
- Find 1 short story, read, annotate, present, write essay literary analysis
- Broken up into 3 parts (Bibliography, Visual, Essay: 2 weeks apart)
- Inspire each other to read new authors

### **End of Year Jerry**

- write a letter to incoming class and sign
- hand them out to newbies at the beginning of the year
- Highlighted specific topics in transcendentalism (individualism, self-reliance, non-conformity etc..)
- Find modern example of this topic (Naked and Afraid, Pat Robertson...)
- 1-2 pages to prove their point
- This example reflects the topic of X..... This relates to Emerson when he states.....
- Cite
- Shows topics are still relevant and practice using evidence, citing and researching etc...

### **Book Clubs in Class**

- Notices students weren't reading enough
- First 6 weeks introduction
- Book clubs thematically themed
- Second 6 weeks offered books within the theme
- Visual piece, analysis piece, presentation piece x
- Varies every 6 weeks

### **Look up Gertrude Bernaby, go to workshop if you can! [www.trailofcrumbs.com](http://www.trailofcrumbs.com)**

- 11 Minute Essays
- Look at picture
- Write about it
- Guided writing
- Reading Writing Workshop

### **Project List (Same Project List for the Entire Year)**

- Write a poem about the book
- Altered Books (art teacher showed class how to do it with examples)
- Dinner Party:

- create plate and a placemat that symbolizes that character
- write an analysis piece
- explaining their character
- bring food that represents their character
- discuss ontological
- question from the point of view of your character (final exam broken into parts)
- Character "Pinterest Board"

### **Outside Reading Assignment**

- "Buddy Book"
- Pair off and read the same book
- Keep journal and go back and forth
- Could structure it: ask each other questions

### **Book Chat**

- Tell about their book and ask three questions
- Speaker and Listener, switch roles
- Compare / contrast

### **Chart of the Alphabet (Test!)**

- Once per year
- Work: Wuthering Heights
- Informed kids to be very prepared for the test, theme, etc....
- Provided with markers and had to find something relevant to say for each letter in the alphabet
  - Setting, theme, vocabulary,
  - Can use ABC Brainstorming Graphic Organizer [www.jerrywbrown.org](http://www.jerrywbrown.org) Graphic org → teamwork
- Colorful, difficult and very successful!

### **Write from Different Perspective**

- Golden Retrievals poem would be good for this
- Creative writing piece: write from the perspective of a object or creature and have other students guess the object when read aloud
- Good for foreshadowing and point of view at first then the other elements come in

### **Improve: Yes, And!**

- Introduce concept of accepting all ideas

- Brainstorming out loud
- The smartest person in the room is the room

### **Sell the Classics**

- Teaches at STEAM school
- Notices students struggled 'selling' their knowledge or product
- Problem is young people don't go to literature for entertainment
  - Sell the classics to youth
  - Create marketing campaign
  - If stumped given the task:
    - Create a fast food meal based on literature
    - Use 3-D printer to create the toy that would come with the meal
- Open-ended: follow engineering process, create product and market it, touch on major literary concepts of the work
- Grade it in checkpoints
- goal this year start project earlier, each group has a Kiosk and judge