



Grade 7- Unit 2 Reading- Analyzing Theme Through Character

Unit Focus
<p>Students will apply the signposts learned in the launch unit to help grow their thinking and awareness about characters in this reading unit. At the same time, students will extend the work of character inference and use it to develop themes. They will work in book club partnerships to first learn important strategies for gathering and talking about ideas, and then to analyze how authors embed theme in character, conflict, and trouble. Reading clubs will help push students toward collaborative inquiry work as they walk in the shoes of characters and lift interpretation work toward universal themes. Reading and writing work will be tightly integrated as students use their readers' notebooks to gather and analyze evidence that will drive their writing of literary essays in the next unit. The classic young adult novel, <i>The Outsiders</i>, serves as the mentor text for modeling, understanding, and applying the unit's concepts.</p> <p>Reading Skills: Inferring, Interpreting</p>

STAGE 1: DESIRED RESULTS – KEY UNDERSTANDINGS

ESTABLISHED GOALS	TRANSFER	
<p>Common Core Standards <i>English Language Arts: 7</i> <i>919332 Reading Literature</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.1 Cite several pieces of textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text. • CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text. • CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of rhymes and other repetitions of sounds (e.g., alliteration) on a specific verse or stanza of a poem or section of a story or drama. • CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.7.6 Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text. <i>919364 Speaking & Listening</i> • CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.7.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with diverse partners on grade 7 topics, texts, and issues, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly. <i>919371 Language</i> 	<p>T1 Comprehend and engage with a variety of texts in order to become independent, critical thinkers.</p> <p>T2 Engage in evidence-based discourse to consider multiple perspectives on a given topic.</p> <p>T3 Evaluate the author's message and purpose, citing text evidence to support conclusions.</p> <p>T4 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text</p>	
	MEANING	
	UNDERSTANDINGS	ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS
	U1 Themes are revealed through many different lenses (who has the power?, gender norms/stereotypes, etc)	Q1 How do authors use characters to teach readers about real people and problems?
	U2 Themes have universal lessons that readers can transfer to life.	Q2 What does this author want me to think about?
	U3 There are multiple ways to interpret text	Q3 How and why do readers put themselves in characters' shoes?
	U4 Critical readers reflect on and question the text, and consider different perspectives to examine author's message	Q4 How and why do authors embed multiple themes within a text?
	ACQUISITION OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL	
	KNOWLEDGE	SKILLS
	K1 Vocabulary: Theme, universal, inference, conflict, accountable talk, evidence-based, internal conflict, symbol, close reading, figurative language, motif, foreshadowing, flashback, climax	S1 Making and supporting evidence-based inferences S2 Track, analyze, and rank critical scenes to examine character

STAGE 1: DESIRED RESULTS – KEY UNDERSTANDINGS

- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.7.6 Acquire and use accurately grade-appropriate general academic and domain-specific words and phrases; gather vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

Student Growth and Development 21st Century Capacities Matrix

Critical Thinking

- Analyzing: Students will be able to examine information/data/evidence to make inferences and identify possible underlying assumptions, patterns, and relationships.
- Synthesizing: Students will be able to thoughtfully combine information/data/evidence, concepts, texts, and disciplines to draw conclusions, create solutions, and/or verify generalizations for a given purpose.

and determine universal theme

S3 Comparing and contrasting the feelings, thoughts, actions dialogue, and reactions of characters in a story

S4 Developing and proving a universal theme

S5 Reading closely to verify and support an interpretation about character and theme

S6 Engaging in focused, accountable talk