

Encounters & Foundations

English 3P Unit 1

Today's Objectives:

Through today's activities SWBAT

Discuss and define
concepts of America and
American identity.

Unit Goal:

- * Read and understand a text representing early American literature independently.
- * Write an expository essay that identifies the author's central claim and examine the use of rhetorical devices to communicate message.

Essential Questions

1. What defines America? What defines the “American”? How have those definitions changed over time? How does power influence those definitions?
2. How do historical events inspire artistic and cultural movements?
3. How has art and literature in the United States helped define “America” as an idea and the “American” as a character across time? How does art and literature empower/disempower groups of people in the United States?
4. How have writers and artists influenced current “American” values and politics?

How we will get there:

1. Unit Overview
2. Concept Reflection
2. Whip Around
3. Definition of “American”

Evidence that we met objective:

Notebook entry and COMPLETED gallery walk pamphlet.

A.

B.

C.

D.

Divide Page on your notebook into 4 quadrants.

Concept Attainment:

1. You will be given a symbolic object. This object represents ideas beyond itself.
2. Before you begin writing look at this object for one minute and think about all the ideas this object represents for you.
3. Write all the things that come to mind when you look at this symbol on your quadrant.
4. In your pods, share your ideas. As you are listening to your peers, add their ideas to the quadrant that represent them in your pod.

Whip around:

Letter _____ report back pods ideas on the symbolic value of the object you were given.

Sentence Frames to support scholars:

In our group we discussed _____ and agreed that _____; however some differences were _____.

Perspectives: What defines the “American”?

TOPIC: Based on today’s conversations, how would you define the qualities that make up the “American” character?

INTRODUCTION TO EXAMPLE/EVIDENCE:

Does this term and do these qualities apply to you? Why or why not?

EXAMPLE: Explain the previous questions with examples from your experience.

ANALYSIS: How do these examples support your opinion?

COMMENTARY: How has the definition changed since the country’s beginning?

Perspectives:

Based on your prior knowledge of American history consider how the different early “American” groups who inhabited what is now the United States would view the same symbol:

- Native people of the continent
- European Immigrants
- Slaves
- Early founders