

Standards-Aligned Lesson Plan

High School English/Language Arts: Edmondson Park (Nashville, TN)

Developed in partnership with the Metropolitan Nashville Arts Commission.

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Planning and Presenting an ELA Lesson Based on CCSS

9th/10th grade

Section I: Planning

Overview: This section focuses on the elements to consider when planning for a CCSS lesson, such as ELA Anchor Standards, content standards, clear learning targets, task objectives, new learning for students, anticipated learning challenges, scaffolding, opportunities for differentiation, ways to prompt student thinking through assessing and advancing questions, instructional strategies to be used in the lesson, and materials and resources.

Lesson Topic: Live Your Epitaph	Time Frame/Lesson Length: Two 50-minute class periods

ELA Content Standards	Anchor Standards	Assessments ✓ Formative ➤ Summative	
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.4 Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.R.4 Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone	Formative: Students will be formatively assessed through discussion in whole group, small group, and Socratic Seminar	Summative: Students will be summatively assessed through Socratic Seminar reflection handout
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience	Students will be formatively assessed through pre-writing, peer feedback, and revision	Students will be summatively assessed through a rubric for their final draft

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.9-10.1.c Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions.	CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.SL.1 Prepare for and participate effectively in a range of conversations and collaborations with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively Students will be formatively assessed through discussion in small groups, whole groups, and Socratic Seminar Students will be summatively assess through Socratic Seminar reflection handout and self-assessment rubric	sed			
Planning Element	escription				
Clear Learning Targets	Day One:				
	I can identify William Edmondson and his contribution to the art world.				
	I can closely read examples of epitaphs and identify tone and common themes.				
	I can participate in a Socratic Seminar and discuss questions related to the close reading.				
	Day Two:				
	I can develop my own epitaph through pre-writing, discussion, and revision				
	I can critique and offer helpful feedback to peers to guide their writing process				
Task Objectives (steps to reach	Day One:				
mastery of clear learning targets)	• Discuss William Edmondson and identify his contributions to the art world				
	Read examples of epitaphs and identify tone and common themes Discuss, analyze, and respond to questions related to epitaphs during a Socratic seminar				
	Day Two:				
	Pre-write, discuss, and revise a personal epitaph				
New Learning	Vocabulary-epitaph, irony, anecdote				
S	Concepts-epitaph, irony, Socratic Seminar, quicklist				
	People-William Edmondson				
	Skills-preparation and participation in seminar, pre-writing, providing feedback for peers' writing	ng			
Anticipated Learning Challenges	Close reading this type of text				
	Preparing for a Socratic Seminar				
	Participating in this type of discussion				
	• Developing ideas for an epitaph				
	Providing helpful feedback to peers				
Scaffolding (to address learning	• Model reading an epitaph while searching and identifying answers to the guiding questions: what				
difficulties)	words are important? What's the tone?				
	• Model how to participate in a Socratic Seminar. Do a "run-through" with the teacher taking on				
	the role of a student. • Model the quicklist on the board or everhead along with the students				
	iviouci me quieknsi on me obaru oi overneau aiong with the students.	Model the quicklist on the board or overhead along with the students.			

	• Model how to provide feedback during revision by providing, "I like", "I wonder" examples.		
Opportunities to Differentiate Learning (explain how you address particular student needs by differentiating process, content, or product)	 Vary the range of questioning to provide guidance or advancement depending on the students' needs Vary the depth of modeling depending on student need Socratic Seminar could be changed to small group or whole group discussion Pre-writing activity could be done as a small group or whole group activity Pre-writing could be extended or eliminated to provide more or less guidance One-on-one writing and revision guidance could be provided by the teacher depending on student needs Writing of an epitaph for William Edmondson or other person could be added to provide depth of opportunities for advanced students A visual image or symbol for their tombstone to represent their impact on their world could be an 		
Questioning: Planning to Illuminate Student Thinking	 opportunity for extension Assessing questions: Who was William Edmondson? What was his contribution to the art world? Give examples of how his work contributed to the art world. What is an epitaph? How can an epitaph be a life statement? Cite the Epitaph Examples in your answer. What might William Edmondson's life statement be? Advancing questions: How, and for what, do you want to be remembered? What impact do you want to have on the world? How can you live your epitaph? 		
Instructional Strategies	 Day One: The teacher will facilitate discussion of William Edmondson's life and work and the irony surrounding the fact that he doesn't have a tombstone or epitaph The students will closely read examples of epitaphs and prepare and participate in a Socratic seminar by considering the questions provided Day Two: Students will participate in a pre-writing activity to help develop ideas for their own epitaph Students will write a rough draft of their own epitaph Students will provide feedback for peers' rough drafts 		
Materials and Resources	 Pictures of William Edmondson and his artwork (image search on google) Excerpt from "Carousel of Time" on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23nvsOudLs0 Examples of epitaphs (see appendix 1) 		

•	Socratic Seminar handout (see appendix 2)
•	Rubric for epitaph (see appendix 3)
•	William Edmondson PPT (appendix 6)

Section II: Presentation

Overview: This section focuses on the steps involved in presenting the lesson. The lesson presentation is divided into segments, such as "Framing the Lesson," "Exploring the Texts," "Sharing, Discussing and Analyzing Text Evidence," "Closing the Lesson," and "Extending the Learning." For each of these lesson elements, there is an explanation of the procedure, teacher actions, and student outcomes.

Day One

Д	Framing	the Lesson	(15 minutes)
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Detailed Procedure

- The students will be introduced to William Edmonson and his art by viewing a PowerPoint and the excerpt from "Carousel of Time" on YouTube that describes the life and art of William Edmondson
- Students will engage in a discussion of the artist, his life, and the irony that Edmondson does not have a tombstone.

Teacher Action

- The teacher will provide pictures of William Edmondson and his artwork (PowerPoint appendix 6)
- The teacher will show the film excerpt from "Carousel of Time" on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23nvsOud Ls0
- The teacher will facilitate discussion and use prompting questions:
 - 1. How is it ironic that Edmondson does not have a tombstone?
 - 2. What is an epitaph?
 - 3. If he had one, what might Edmondson's epitaph have said?
- Use the examples of his own words, "I am just doing the Lord's work, I ain't got much style, God don't want much style, but He gives wisdom and sends you along." "I looked up in the sky and right there in the noon daylight, he hung a tombstone out for me to make."

Student Outcomes

- The students will participate in the discussion about William Edmondson's life and contribution to the art world.
- Students will understand the idea of an epitaph and discuss examples of what Edmondson's epitaph could have been.

Exploring the Text(s) (10 minutes)

Detailed Procedure

• Students will utilize close reading strategies to analyze the epitaph texts.

Teacher Actions

• The teacher will provide examples of epitaphs to students by using Epitaph Examples (appendix 1).

Student Outcomes

• The students will closely read examples of epitaphs and identify tone and common themes.

Students will prepare for the Socratic Seminar by taking notes regarding the questions posed by the teacher.	 The teacher will instruct students in how to use close reading strategies to analyze the epitaphs. The teacher will prompt students' preparation for a Socratic Seminar by providing thought-provoking questions and directing them to use the Socratic Seminar Reflection (appendix 2) to record their answers: How and for what does the author want to be remembered? What words stand out? How do you think they intended to impact the world? What words best describe the tone? What things did they obviously value? Which lines support your answer? 	Students will prepare for a Socaratic Seminar and use evidence in their reflection.
© Sharing, Discussing, and Analyzing		
Detailed Procedure	Teacher Actions	Student Outcomes
 Students will participate in a Socratic Seminar to discuss the questions related to the epitaphs. Students will complete the reflection handout during the Seminar. 	 The teacher will facilitate the Socratic Seminar by using prompting questions and modeling. Examples of questions may be: How and for what does the author want to be remembered? What words stand out? Annotate them in the text. How do you think they intended to impact the world? What words make you think that? 	 The students will demonstrate that they can effectively participate in the Socratic Seminar by providing thoughtful answers to the questions (formative assessment). The students will provide a reflection of their experience on the Socratic Seminar reflection handout (summative assessment).
	5. What words best describe the tone?6. What things did they obviously value? What makes you think that?	
□ Closing the Lesson (5 minutes)		
Detailed Procedure	Teacher Actions	Student Outcomes
• Students will engage in a review the	• The teacher will review the "I can" statements	The students will demonstrate

Detailed Duccedune	Toochon Action	Andon't Ontoomes
△ Framing the Lesson (10 minutes)		
Day Two		
homework.		
Extending the Learning Teachers r	nay choose to assign a written epitaph for William F	Edmondson or another person for
	accomplish this?	
	have some people in the past used an epitaph to	
statement.	How can an epitaph be a life statement? How	
epitaphs and how they can be a life	Questions may include: What is an epitaph?	
• Students will engage in a review of	• The teacher will facilitate closing discussion.	
		discussion.
"I can" statements for today.	for the day.	progression toward mastery through

△ Framing the Lesson (10 minutes)			
Detailed Procedure			Student Outcomes
Students will engage in a review of	The teacher will facilitate a di	scussion	 The students will access learning from
Day One.	and review of yesterday's less	on.	the prior day's lesson.
	The teacher will prompt today	's lesson	 The students will begin considering and
	by asking thought-provoking	questions	discussing their ideas for their own life
	about students' life statements		statements.
	. How, and for what, would yo	ou like to	
	be remembered?		
	. How is an epitaph a life state	ment?	
⇔ Pre-Writing (15 minutes)	• •		
Detailed Procedure	Teacher Actions		Student Outcomes
• Students will engage in the pre-writing	The teacher will lead students	through	• The students will utilize pre-writing
technique, "quicklist"	the pre-writing activity, using	the	techniques while progressing toward
	technique, "quicklist."		lesson goals.
	The teacher may use the example below		
	to model:		
• Students will create 3 columns on their			
papers. They are to come up with nouns,	Nouns Adjectives Ar	ecdotes	
adjectives, and anecdotes for that	mother strict Sh	are a	
describe themselves.	sister dependable bri	ef story	
	teacher dedicated or		
	experience		
	1		
O Developing, Sharing, Discussing, and A	alyzing Writing (20 minutes)		
Detailed Procedure	eacher Actions		Student Outcomes
Students will begin writing their life	The teacher will instruct students in		• The students will write rough drafts of

statements/epitaphs. the process of writing their own their epitaphs (formative assessment). epitaph. The teacher will engage students in the following thoughts and questions: "Your epitaph should be a life statement as brief and apt as possible. How do you hope to impact the world? How do you want to best live so that you may die honored? It should be short and memorable. It does not have to rhyme, but it should flow. Use the examples from yesterday as a guide." The teacher will model peer review The students will participate in a • In small groups, students will share and by completing, "I like..." "I discussion with peers about their discuss their rough drafts. They will use wonder..." statements of a writing writing and receive and provide "I like...", "I wonder..." to react to sample. "I like how you used a valuable feedback, leading to the simile to describe yourself". "I revision process. peers' writing. wonder if more description would give the reader a better idea of who you are." The teacher will circulate to provide guidance during the peer review time □ Closing the Lesson (5 minutes) **Detailed Procedure Teacher Actions Student Outcomes** • Students will engage in a review of the "I • The teacher will facilitate closing Write final drafts that incorporate the can" statements for the day. discussion, including a review of the "I changes that were suggested during can" statements and assigning peer feedback. completion of final drafts for homework. • Students will complete final drafts of life Students will develop their own statements/epitaphs for homework. epitaphs that incorporate the changes suggested during peer feedback.

Extending the Learning Write final draft of epitaph for homework (summative assessment)

Appendices (attach resources used, such as handouts, etc...):

- Appendix 1: epitaph examples
- Appendix 2: teacher instructions for conducting a Socratic Seminar
- Appendix 3: Socratic Seminar reflection
- Appendix 4: Rubric for final draft of epitaph
- Appendix 5: "Carousel of Time" on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23nvsOudLs0
- Appendix 6: PowerPoint of Edomondson's artwork

Epitaph Examples

"He who gives right to him who loves and gives wrong to him who hates"

-The earliest known epitaph which was carved in Egypt six thousand years ago

"Death is the starlit strip between the companionship of yesterday and the reunion of tomorrow"
-Mark Twain

"The Body of B. Franklin, Printer; like the Cover of an old Book, Its Contents torn out, And stript of its Lettering and Gilding, Lies here, Food for Worms.

But the Work shall not be wholly lost; For it will, as he believ'd, appear once more, In a new & more perfect Edition, Corrected and amended By the Author"

-(As a young man, Benjamin Franklin wrote this in his diary, stating that this is what he wanted on his tombstone, but it never actually happened):

"As the flowers are all made sweeter by the sunshine and the dew, so this old world is made brighter by the lives of folks like you. Outlaw, bank robber and partner of Clyde Barrow"

-Bonnie Parker, of Bonnie and Clyde

"3.14159265358979323846264338327950"

-Ludolph van Ceulen, the first person to calculate the value of pi to 35 digits.

"This Grave contains all that was Mortal of a Young English Poet Who on his Death Bed in the Bitterness of his Heart at the Malicious Power of his Enemies Desired these words to be engraved on his Tomb Stone":

"Here lies One Whose Name was writ in Water."

-Poet John Keats

"Free at last. Free at last. Thank God Almighty I'm Free at Last."

-Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"His true wealth was in his generous heart, and what endless wealth he did have."
-unknown

Epitaph Examples

"Death is not a foe, but an inevitable adventure." -unknown

"Life's a voyage that's homeward bound."

-unknown

"She was a lady, proud and willful- yet kind and giving. Always faithful, with a joy of living. Her health was frail. But her spirit was strong. She gave her all and now she is gone. She was one of a kind."

-unknown

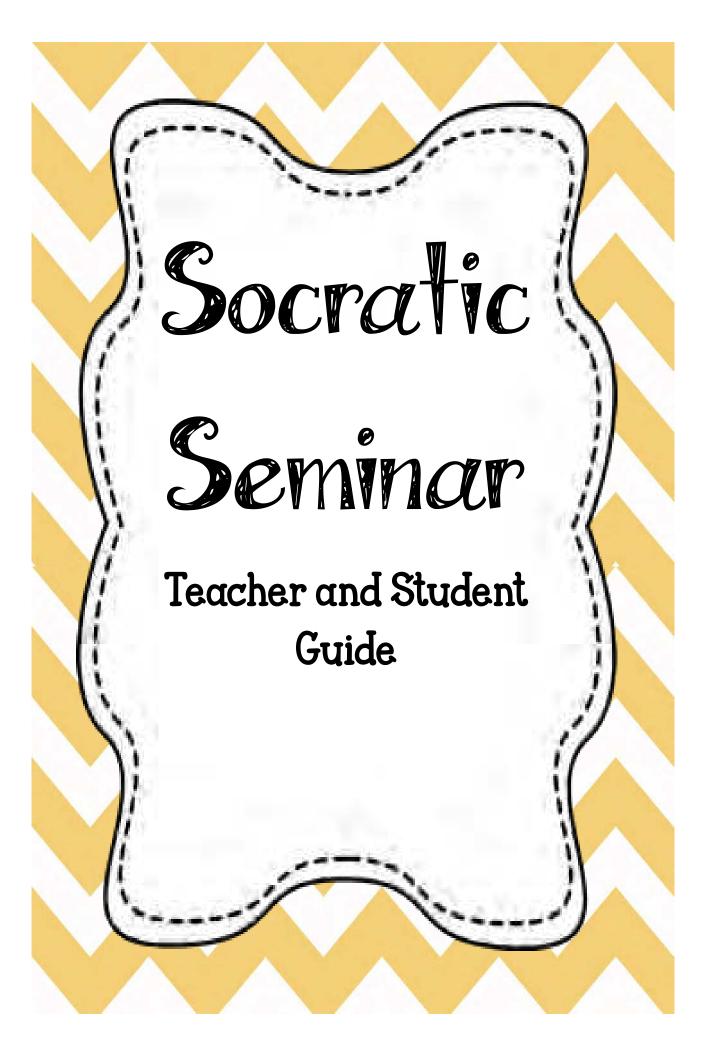
"A mother kind, a wife so dear constant friend lies buried here. We mourn her loss while here we stay. And hope to meet in bless someday."

-unknown

"Lived for his fellow man and died happy."
-unknown

Socratic Seminar Reflection

Name					
Text or Topic					
Preparation for the discussion:					
Number the lines or paragraphs of your text. Consider the questions posed by down ideas you would like to share during the discussion that relate to the que			er and	l jot	
During the discussion.					
During the discussion: React to someone's comments during the seminar. What did they say? What's	your	reacti	on to	that?	
After the discussion:					
Explain how the discussion influenced your thinking about the topic or text.					
Self-Assessment:					
Taking a position on a question	5	4	3	2	1
Using evidence to support a position or presenting factual information	5	4	3	2	1
Drawing another person into the discussion	5	4	3	2	1
Asking a clarifying question or moving the discussion along	5	4	3	2	1
Highlighting and marking the text with questions/commentary	5	4	3	2	1





Socratic Seminar Preparation

Required Reading:	Date of Socratic Seminar:
	ic Seminar, write questions using these sentence frames (s) you read. Choose and complete 5 of the following:
What puzzles me is	
I'd like to talk with people about	
I'm confused about	
Don't you think this is similar to	
Do you agree that the big ideas seem to be	
I have questions about	
Another point of view is	
I think it means	
Do you think	
What does it mean when the author says	
Do you agree that	

Socratic Seminar Check Sheet

Date: _____

Student Name	# of Participation	Level A	Level B	Level C	Level D
	-				

Socratic Seminar Levels of Participation

Level A

- Participant offers enough solid analysis, without prompting, to move the conversation forward
- Participant, through her comments, demonstrates a deep knowledge of the text and the question
- Participant has come to the seminar prepared, with notes and a marked/annotated text
- Participant, through her comments, shows that she is actively listening to other participants
- Participant offers clarification and/or follow-up that extends the conversation

Participant's remarks often refer back to specific parts of the text.

Level C

- Participant offers some analysis, but needs prompting from the seminar leader
- Through comments, participant demonstrates a general knowledge of the text and question
- Participant is less prepared, with few notes and no marked/annotated text
- Participant is actively listening to others, but does not offer clarification and/or follow-up to others' comments
 Participant relies more upon his or her opinion, and less on the text to drive her comments

Level B

- Participant offers solid analysis without prompting
- Through comments, participant demonstrates a good knowledge of the text and the question
- Participant has come to the seminar prepared, with notes or a marked/ annotated text

Participant shows that he/she is actively listening to others and offers clarification and/or follow-up



- Participant offers little commentary
- Participant comes to the seminar ill-prepared with little understanding of the text and question
- Participant does not listen to others, offers no commentary to further the discussion
 Participant distracts the group by interrupting other speakers or by offering off topic questions and comments.



Teacher Information

What is a Socratic Seminar?

A Socratic Seminar is a form of teaching. Socrates believed that students learned best when they had to think for themselves. Socrates would respond to student questions not with answers, but rather with more questions. Rather than the teacher simply filling the students' heads with ideas students form their own thoughts and share them with the rest of the class. Students examine a similar piece of text or problem and then share a dialogue to come to a better understanding.

How do you make sure students keep discussing?

Always, always have a pre-discussion activity. This will ensure students come prepared and ready to discuss. Also, it will be important for the teacher to have some open-ended questions ready.

Do students actually like this?

Yes! Students love having those "Ah-HA!" moments. The Socratic Seminar is the perfect place for them to take place. They love that they are running the class and answering (and asking) the questions that interest them.

There is no way that this works.

That's not a question, and yes it does. Since expectations are always made clear ahead of time students know what they are supposed to do, plus they like it! Management is rarely a problem when students are doing something they enjoy. While some students may be hesitant to offer opinions and add to the dialogue at first, with continued practice they will become pros! It is also a great way to build a culture of collaboration in a class!!

At the beginning of Socratic Seminar:

I go over and stress the guidelines of Socratic seminar. Then I tell the students how many times I want them to contribute.

During Socratic Seminar:

I use the check sheet and check each time a student participates. At the end I evaluate and decide whether the participation was at the A, B, C, D or F level.

Guidelines

It is not a debate, but rather a disc	ussion.
Students must address each other	by name and use "I" phrases.
I agree with beca	use
I disagree with beca	use
No raising hands (everyone's favo	rite rule)
You must back up statements with	textual evidence (with spe-
cific page numbers) or theories/	methods discussed in class.
No side discussions.	
No talking over each other.	
Respect everyone's opinions.	
Anyone may ask questions of the	group at any time.
Talk to the group, not to the teacher	er.

Because this is a dialogue and not a debate we must:

Suspend judgment

Explain reasoning and be able to see its limits

Communicate assumptions

Exploring many viewpoints

Set-Up

For classes of 20 or fewer:

Students should arrange desks in a circle facing inward.

For classes of more than 20

Students should split in half and arrange two sets of circles—an inner circle and an outer circle.

The inner circle will participate while the outer circle does a related activity.

Take notes

Keep "score" for a partner in the inner circle (see "Scoring and Rubrics" on page).

Fill out a graphic organizer related to the seminar Circles will switch halfway through so all students get a chance to complete all activities.

Sample Questions

Sample questions to serve as the key question or interpret the text:

What is the main idea or underlying value in the text?

What is the author's purpose or perspective?

What does (a particular phrase) mean?

What might be a good title for the text?

What is the most important word/sentence/paragraph?

Sample questions to move the discussion along:

Who has a different perspective?

Who has not yet had a chance to speak?

Where do you find evidence for that in the text?

Can you clarify what you mean by that?

How does that relate to what (someone else) said?

Is there something in the text that is unclear to you?

Has anyone changed their mind?

Sample questions to bring the discussion back to students in closing:

How do the ideas in the text relate to our lives?

What do they mean for us personally?

Why is this material important?

Is it right that....?

Do you agree with the author?

Sample debriefing questions:

Do you feel like you understand the text at a deeper level?

How was the process for us?

Did we adhere to our norms?

Did you achieve your goals to participate?

William Edmondson













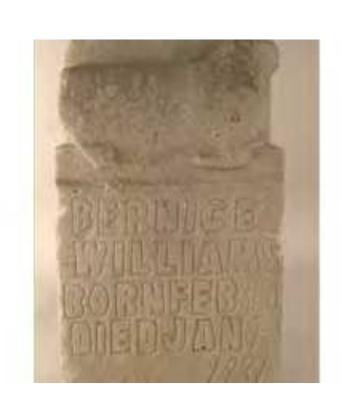












Epitaph Rubric

Criteria	1	2	3	4	5
Epitaph displays personal characteristics and style	Exhibits no personal traits or characteristics and doesn't show an individual creative style	Exhibits personal traits or characteristics, but doesn't show an individual person style	Exhibits personal traits and characteristics, but individual personal style may be lacking	Exhibits personal traits and characteristics in a creative fashion and reflects the pre-writing ideas	Exhibits personal traits and characteristics in an exceptionally creative fashion and reflects the pre-writing ideas
Mechanics	Spelling and grammar are poor and final draft is sloppy	Spelling and grammar are poor, but final draft is fairly neat	A few spelling or grammar mistakes, but final draft is neat	No spelling or grammar mistakes, but final draft is not neat	No spelling or grammar mistakes, and final draft is very neat
Rough draft and revision	No rough draft is included	Rough draft is included but no changes have been made	Rough draft is included and minimal revisions were made	Rough draft is included and changes were made based on peer feedback	Rough draft is included, peer feedback is included, and positive changes were made based on peer feedback

	Personal	Mechanics	Rough draft
	characteristics		and revision
	and style		
Self-assessment score			
Teacher score			