

ORIGINAL

Subject: Lit & Comp III-MM

Fall 2005

Week 3: Day 3

Objectives

The students will:

- 1) Hypothesize about possible reasons why Wright names Part I of *Native Son* “Fear” to reinforce the idea of fear as a central theme in the book.
- 2) Discuss how fear is present in Bigger’s life, how he acts on that fear and the results of his actions to further reinforce the theme of fear and to increase students’ awareness of how external social factors/elements may influence behavior.
- 3) View one scene from the film “Of Mice and Men” to prepare for a compare/contrast exercise.
- 4) Compare and contrast a scene from “Of Mice and Men” and *Native Son* to increase comprehension of the *Native Son* text and to examine each character’s motive for committing his crime.

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
5 min	Think about and discuss reasons why Wright named Part I of <i>Native Son</i> “Fear,” citing specific examples from the text.	NS texts
15 min	Discuss answers to the following questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does Bigger fear? • How do his fears alter his actions? • What are some results of his actions due to fear? 	NS texts
5 min	Set up scene from OM&M, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brief explanation of plot • Brief explanation of characters • Explanation of events up to this point • Idea of what to watch for (motive) 	
10 min	View scene from OM&M when Lennie kills the young woman.	TV/VCR OM&M video
1 min	Move into groups of three or four	* Groups pre-set for 6 th hour
13 min	Make a Venn Diagram and use to compare/contrast the scene in which Bigger kills Mary Dalton and the scene in which Lennie kills the young woman in OM&M, being sure to address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Motives • Character similarities/differences • Similarities/differences in mental states • Similarities/differences in ways of life 	NS texts Pencils/Paper
1 min	Give assignment for Monday	

Assignment: Read in *Native son*: pgs 97-105

Evaluation: Completed Venn Diagrams: 10 points (major assessment)

REVISED

Learning Goals:

(RL.11-12.2) –Analyze the development of the theme of fear over the course of the text, *Native Son*.

(RL.11-12.9) – Discuss the historical and cultural influences that could impact how two characters – Bigger Thomas from *Native Son* and Lennie Smalls from *Of Mice and Men* – experience and act on their fears.

Success Criteria:

Identify differences between the fear Bigger experiences in the beginning, middle, and end of the text, *Native Son*.

Explain major historical and cultural influences of the 1930's in the United States.

Recall character traits of Lennie Smalls from *Of Mice and Men*.

Connect Bigger's actions to cultural and historical influences, and connect Lennie's actions to cultural and historical influences.

Evidence-Gathering Opportunities (Tasks):

Participate in Socratic Seminar discussion of three excerpts all focused on the theme of fear. Teacher should note students' mentioning of

- what Bigger fears in each excerpt
- how Bigger's fears alter his actions
- the results of his fear-induced actions
- social factors influencing his fear

Collaboratively develop a list of major historical and cultural influences of the 1930's in the U.S. Teacher should note students' mentioning of

- race relations
- migrant workers
- rich vs. poor
- treatment of women

Collaboratively develop a list of character traits of Lennie Smalls. Teacher should note students' mentioning of

- large man
- mental disability
- goals for the future
- relationships with others
- brute strength

Create a Venn Diagram to compare/contrast the scene in which Bigger kills Mary Dalton and the scene in which Lennie kills the young woman in OMM. Teachers should note students' mentioning of

- contrast motives
- similarities/differences in character traits
- similarities/differences in mental states
- similarities/differences in ways of life
- the nature of each character's fear