

USING VIDEO TO FOSTER CRITICAL READING AND ARGUMENT WRITING WITH GEN Z LEARNERS

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A BIT ABOUT ME. . .



Where I'm From and What I Do

PURPOSE AND AUDIENCE



PURPOSE: FOSTERING CRITICAL READING AND ARGUMENT WRITING

Theoretical Foundations

Transactional/Reader Response Theory (Rosenblatt)



- What you bring to the text affects your experience with it and your interpretation of it
- How you interact with the text is at the crux of reading
- Making text connections (self/text/world) is essential to the reading process

PURPOSE: FOSTERING CRITICAL READING AND ARGUMENT WRITING



Common Core Standards (Highlights):

ELA - Reading Literature & Informational Texts (11-12.1-10)

- Key Ideas and Details (Elements of Story/Central Ideas)
- Craft and Structure (Author's Choices)
- Integration of Knowledge and Ideas (Analysis/Interpretation; Integrate/Evaluate Multiple Sources of Info)
- Range of Reading Level of Text Complexity (Different Media/Formats)

ELA - Writing (11-12.1A and B; 11-12.9)

- Arguments, Claims, Substantive Texts, Counterclaims
- Draw Evidence from Literature or Informational Texts

AUDIENCE: 21ST CENTURY LEARNERS & VISUAL AND DIGITAL TRENDS

Who are Gen Z students?



Generally speaking, they

- ❑ “expect to be fully engaged and to be a part of the learning process themselves” (Kosinsky).
- ❑ are “tech natives, spending nearly their entire lives immersed in technologies that are crucial to living and learning” (edtech.com)
- ❑ “have a higher preference for learning from YouTube and videos, compared with printed books” (Genota).

VIDEO AS TEXT



TEXT SET ONE : ANALYZING STORY STRUCTURE AND LITERARY ELEMENTS

How do we see ourselves? How do others see us?

The Present is a touching short film that can be used as a tool for teaching story structure, theme, irony and/or foreshadowing.

Pairing it with Kate Chopin's 1894 "The Story of An Hour" extends the study of literary elements and can lead to sophisticated comparisons.



TEXT SET TWO: ARGUMENT WRITING FOUNDATIONS

Icing on the Cake, an animated StoryCorps video, brings to life the recollections of a Mexican immigrant family through a conversation between a mother and her daughter as they reflect on the sacrifices involved in pursuing the American Dream.

Casey Gerald has a sharply different—and perhaps ironic—view of the American Dream.

“Deporting the American Dream,” a [nytimes.com](#) opinion piece by Anita Isaacs and Ann Preston presents a nuanced look at the existence of this perennial concept.

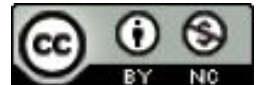
The American Dream: Fact or Fiction?



TEXT SET THREE: TEXT CONNECTIONS

Should you ever alter your appearance or behavior in order to conform to society's expectations? Why or why not?

Watching the Op Doc
([nytimes.com](https://www.nytimes.com)) *A
Conversation with My Black
Son* and then reading Brent
Staples 1986 essay “Just
Walk on By: A Black Man
Ponders His Power to Alter
Public Space” fosters
reading skills and text
connections and builds
schema.



CONCLUSION

BEING CONSCIOUS OF YOUR PURPOSE AND AUDIENCE



- ❖ Engages readers and writers
- ❖ Inspires discussion
- ❖ Fosters critical thinking
- ❖ Activates background knowledge
- ❖ Broadens schemata
- ❖ Encourages metacognition

RESOURCES FOR FURTHER EXPLORATION



- *nytimes.com* Op Docs
- StoryCorps Shorts (storycorps.org)
- PBS NewsHour
- YouTube or Vimeo for animation shorts
- Ted Talks

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