

AP English Literature and Composition

Unit 4 Lesson Plans

Unit Plan: Short Fiction Style and Tone

Lesson 1: Introduction to Style and Tone

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.4, SL.11-12.1

Objective: Students will identify and analyze tone and stylistic elements in literature.

Materials: Public domain texts ("The Tell-Tale Heart," "The Story of an Hour"), excerpt from "A Good Man Is Hard to Find."

Activities:

1. (Non-AI) Analyze different tones in short excerpts from public domain works.
 2. Read an excerpt from "A Good Man Is Hard to Find."
 3. Class discussion on tone and stylistic elements.
 4. (AI) Use an AI-powered text analyzer to compare the tone of two excerpts and generate a summary.
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Lesson 2: Humor and Irony in O'Connor's Work

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.3, W.11-12.9

Objective: Students will explore how humor and irony contribute to tone.

Materials: Excerpt from "A Good Man Is Hard to Find."

Activities:

1. (Non-AI) Rewrite a paragraph from the story, altering the tone.
 2. Identify shifts in tone and their impact on the narrative.
 3. (AI) Generate alternative versions of a passage with different tones and compare them.
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Lesson 3: Group Analysis of Perspective and Voice

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.6, W.11-12.2

Objective: Students will analyze perspective and voice through group collaboration.

Materials: "A Good Man Is Hard to Find."

Activities:

1. Group analysis of a specific passage's tone, perspective, and voice.

2. Homework: Write a short analysis of one paragraph.
 3. (AI) AI-assisted summarization of group discussions.
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Week 2: Comparing Authorial Styles

Lesson 4: Lahiri's Narrative Style vs. O'Connor's

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.9, SL.11-12.4

Objective: Compare Lahiri's style with O'Connor's.

Materials: "Interpreter of Maladies," "A Good Man Is Hard to Find."

Activities:

1. Read "Interpreter of Maladies."
 2. Class discussion on stylistic differences.
 3. (Non-AI) Create a Venn diagram comparing diction and syntax.
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Lesson 5: Close Reading and Annotation

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.5, W.11-12.4

Objective: Identify Lahiri's stylistic trademarks.

Materials: "Interpreter of Maladies."

Activities:

1. (Non-AI) Annotate a key scene, noting shifts in perspective and emotional impact.
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Lesson 6: Comparing Scenes Across Authors

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.2, SL.11-12.1

Objective: Compare authors' styles and thematic elements.

Materials: "Interpreter of Maladies," "A Good Man Is Hard to Find."

Activities:

1. Partner work comparing two scenes from different authors.
 2. Homework: One-page reflection on human relationships.
 3. (AI) Use AI to generate similarities and differences between excerpts.
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Week 3: Magical Realism and Advanced Analysis

Lesson 7: Introducing Magical Realism

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.1, SL.11-12.3

Objective: Understand how magical realism shapes tone.

Materials: "A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings."

Activities:

1. Read and discuss magical realism.
 2. (Non-AI) Creative writing exercise incorporating magical realism.
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Lesson 8: Shifts in Tone and Narrative Voice

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.5, W.11-12.10

Objective: Examine Márquez's shifting tones.

Materials: "A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings."

Activities:

1. Group comparison of Márquez and Lahiri.
 2. (AI) AI-assisted tone analysis.
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Lesson 9: Synthesizing Authorial Styles and Themes

Common Core Standards: RL.11-12.9, W.11-12.2

Objective: Compare all three authors' styles and themes.

Materials: Selected stories from O'Connor, Lahiri, and Márquez.

Activities:

1. Whole-class discussion on stylistic elements.
 2. Develop a thesis for an analytical essay.
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Week 4: Assessment and Synthesis

Lesson 10: Writing Workshop and Peer Review

Common Core Standards: W.11-12.5, SL.11-12.1

Objective: Refine essay drafts through peer feedback.

Activities:

1. Writing workshop: Drafting essays.
2. Peer review and feedback.

Lesson 11: Revision and Finalization

Common Core Standards: W.11-12.4, W.11-12.6

Objective: Revise and polish essays.

Activities:

1. Final revisions and editing.
2. Submission of final essays.

Lesson 12: Reflection and Personal Response

Common Core Standards: W.11-12.10, SL.11-12.2

Objective: Reflect on key takeaways from the unit.

Activities:

1. Class discussion on lessons learned.
2. Homework: Personal response on how analyzing tone deepened their understanding of fiction.

Assessment Methods:

- Daily annotations and discussions.
- One-page comparative reflection.
- Final analytical essay.

Materials Needed:

- Copies of short stories.
- Public domain texts.
- Annotation tools.
- AI tools for text analysis.

Extensions:

- Additional short stories from diverse authors.
- Creative writing experiments with tone shifts.