

AP English Literature and Composition

Unit 7 Lesson Plan

Argumentation and Synthesis

Lesson 1: Analyzing AP Free Response Questions and Crafting Thesis Statements

Objective:

Understand the expectations of AP Free Response Questions and practice writing strong thesis statements for literary arguments.

Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.1:** Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.1:** Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Activities:

1. **Activity 1: Group Analysis of AP Free Response Questions (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Work in groups to analyze AP-style free response questions.
 - Identify scoring criteria, key expectations, and elements that make a high-scoring response.
 - Present findings to the class.
2. **Activity 2: Crafting a Thesis Statement (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Instruct students on the importance of crafting a clear, arguable thesis statement.
 - Practice creating thesis statements for a literary argument based on their readings of *The Great Gatsby* or *Hamlet*.
3. **Activity 3: Introduction to Synthesis Writing (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Discuss how to incorporate multiple sources into an argumentative essay.
 - Show examples of successful synthesis essays.
4. **Activity 4: AI-Assisted Essay Scaffold (AI Activity)**
 - Students input a theme (e.g., "The Role of Morality in *Hamlet*") into AI for an essay outline.
 - AI generates suggested subtopics and textual evidence for building their argument.
5. **Activity 5: AI Thesis Statement Feedback (AI Activity)**
 - Students input their thesis statements into an AI tool.
 - The AI offers feedback on clarity and strength of the thesis, with students revising based on suggestions.

Lesson 2: Integrating Textual Evidence and Paraphrases

Objective:

Learn how to effectively integrate textual evidence and paraphrases into an argumentative essay.

Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.2:** Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text.
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.9:** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Activities:

1. **Activity 1: Close Reading and Annotation (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will close read a passage from *Hamlet* or *The Great Gatsby*.
 - Annotate key passages to highlight textual evidence that supports a literary argument.
2. **Activity 2: Integrating Quotes and Paraphrases (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Teach students strategies for integrating quotes and paraphrases smoothly into their writing.
 - Have students practice integrating quotes into a paragraph they have written.
3. **Activity 3: Peer Feedback on Argument Paragraph (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students share their written paragraphs in pairs, providing feedback on clarity of argument and the integration of evidence.
4. **Activity 4: AI-Assisted Feedback on Argument Paragraphs (AI Activity)**
 - Students submit their argument paragraphs to an AI tool for real-time feedback.
 - The AI offers suggestions on improving evidence integration and paragraph structure.
5. **Activity 5: AI Textual Analysis (AI Activity)**
 - Using AI, students will analyze the theme of power in *The Great Gatsby* by querying the AI for relevant passages to use in their argument.

Lesson 3: Writing a Synthesis Essay - Part 1: Prewriting and Organizing Ideas

Objective:

Begin drafting a synthesis essay using multiple sources, developing strong arguments and outlines.

Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.9:** Analyze how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work.
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.1:** Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Activities:

1. **Activity 1: Analyzing Synthesis Prompt (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Discuss a synthesis prompt (e.g., "How does the theme of identity in *The Great Gatsby* intersect with modern societal issues?").
 - Students will brainstorm ideas and create a basic outline for their essay.
2. **Activity 2: Group Discussion on Essay Structure (Non-AI Activity)**
 - In small groups, students will discuss how they plan to organize their essays, focusing on evidence and argumentative strategies.
 - Each group will present their approach to the class.
3. **Activity 3: Writing a Thesis and Outline (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will write a clear thesis statement and create a detailed outline for their synthesis essay.
4. **Activity 4: AI-Assisted Draft Outline Generation (AI Activity)**
 - Students use AI to input their topic and thesis, receiving a detailed essay outline with suggested sources and subtopics for developing their argument.
5. **Activity 5: AI Source Integration (AI Activity)**
 - Students query AI for textual evidence and quotes related to their thesis, allowing AI to suggest key ideas or sources that they can incorporate into their essay.

Lesson 4: Writing a Synthesis Essay - Part 2: Drafting and Revising

Objective:

Write the first draft of the synthesis essay, incorporating feedback and revising for clarity and strength of argument.

Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.5:** Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
- **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.

Activities:

1. **Activity 1: Writing the First Draft (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will write the first draft of their synthesis essays, focusing on supporting their thesis with evidence from primary and secondary sources.
2. **Activity 2: Peer Review Workshop (Non-AI Activity)**

- In pairs, students will share their drafts and provide peer feedback on clarity, argument strength, and use of evidence.
 - 3. **Activity 3: Revising Based on Peer Feedback (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will revise their drafts based on feedback received from peers.
 - 4. **Activity 4: AI-Assisted Essay Feedback (AI Activity)**
 - Students input their draft into an AI tool for real-time feedback on structure, cohesion, and argument clarity.
 - 5. **Activity 5: AI Textual Evidence Suggestions (AI Activity)**
 - Students use AI to suggest additional quotes or paraphrases they could incorporate into their drafts for stronger support of their thesis.
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Lesson 5: Peer Reviews and Final Revisions

Objective:

Refine the synthesis essay through peer and teacher feedback, preparing for final submission.

Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.5:** Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.
- **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.

Activities:

1. **Activity 1: Structured Peer Review (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will participate in structured peer review, focusing on clarity of thesis, argument development, and use of evidence.
 2. **Activity 2: Socratic Seminar (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will engage in a Socratic seminar, discussing their essays and refining their arguments through class discussion.
 3. **Activity 3: Revising for Clarity and Depth (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will revise their synthesis essays based on feedback from the peer review and Socratic seminar.
 4. **Activity 4: AI-Assisted Final Draft Check (AI Activity)**
 - Students will use an AI tool to check their final drafts for grammar, clarity, and argument strength.
 5. **Activity 5: AI Peer Review (AI Activity)**
 - Students will upload their final drafts to an AI tool for additional feedback on the strength of their thesis, evidence, and argument.
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Lesson 6: Final Submission and Reflection

Objective:

Finalize and submit the synthesis essay, reflecting on the writing process.

Common Core Standards:

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.9:** Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- **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.

Activities:

1. **Activity 1: Final Edits and Submission (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will make any final edits based on feedback and submit their synthesis essays.
2. **Activity 2: Reflective Journal Entry (Non-AI Activity)**
 - Students will write a reflective journal entry discussing their writing process, what they learned, and how they incorporated multiple sources and perspectives.
3. **Activity 3: AI-Generated Essay Summary (AI Activity)**
 - Students use AI to generate a brief summary of their synthesis essay, ensuring their argument is clearly communicated.

These lessons are designed to progressively build students' skills in literary argumentation, integrating both non-AI and AI tools to enhance learning and writing capabilities.