

Lesson Plan

Teacher's Name: Dr. Buchanan		Grade Level: 11	Day in Unit: 8
Topic/Genre/Focus: Six-Word Memoir/Express			
Objective (what is your reason for teaching this; what do you want students to know) Students will create, reflect on, and revise a six-word memoir, taking into account word choice and message.		Common Core Standard Aligned with Objective: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.11-12.3d Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.	
Lesson Elements			
Activities, discussions, assignments, lectures, etc		Time	Materials/Technology
#1 Journal Time Students will write in their journals while I take attendance and make any announcements, etc. Topic: Make a list of words, traits, topics, memoirs, events etc that help define and describe you.		5 min	Writer's Notebook
#2 Introduction to activity (Using PowerPoint): Today we are going to continue talking about genres and expressive writing and work on a genre you could use in your multigenre project. We're going to discuss the six-word memoir. We'll start by watching a video from Smith Magazine: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0ZOxhHXZW6o		4 min	PowerPoint Internet
#3 Mentor Texts Continuing with PP, show book and read other examples of memoirs. Ask the following questions: *After reading/seeing some six-word memoirs, what surprises you about this form? *What's the difference between a story and a memoir? Why do we tell stories? Who knows your story best? *How is it both possible and impossible to distill the essence of who you are into six words? Which author do you think does the best job of it and why?		5 min	PowerPoint Book
#4 Modeling: Read some of my own six-word memoirs to the class		1 min	PowerPoint
#5 Brainstorming and Drafting Remember the list you created during journal time? Return to it. Circle the words you think really stand out—words you could write more about (pick three or four). Now, pick one of the words and start freewriting about the thought. Synthesize (<i>Combine all the elements into a whole</i>) the information you wrote about in your freewrite, coming up with at least one six word memoir		10 min	Writer's Notebook
#6 Drafting Directions Have students write their own drafts of six-word memoirs, showing Smith Magazine's "Suggestions for writing Six-Word Memoirs" Clip: http://www.smithmag.net/sixwordbook/2010/09/13/video-six-tips-for-writing-six-word-memoirs/		5 min	Internet PowerPoint
#7 Feedback Have students break into pairs, share memoirs and work on getting them down to 6 words. Work on thinking about revision based on word-choice, punctuation, and message. Repeat this process meeting with at least three different people.		10 min	Pairs
#8 Revision Have students return to drafting after getting feedback.		5 min	Writer's Notebook
#9 Next Steps and Homework Once you have at least two or three examples of six-word memoirs, start to think about images you could use to create a visual for your memoirs. Bring the visual and completed handout to class tomorrow.		Remaining Class Period	Handout
Homework: Complete Handout on Six-Word Memoirs			