
The following are examples of responses to unit reflection questions by Chicago, IL students who experienced this unit in spring 2022.

"Self-Identity in Today's Society"

Day 1

Please create 3 Higher-Order Thinking Questions from the poem, "Our Deepest Fear." Use the Hess Cognitive Rigor Matrix to create your questions. Each question should either be a DOK Level 3 or 4.

https://static.pdesas.org/content/documents/M1-Slide_22_DOK_Hess_Cognitive_Rigor.pdf

1.) In the text it states, " Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?" From your understanding of the material, what does this line mean to you?

3.) According to the poem , what do you believe the poet believes?
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2.) According to the poem what does the word light represent
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Answer the following questions in a paragraph format. Each question should be 3-4 sentences long.

Student B

Date: March 23, 2022

1.) What does it mean to be invisible? (context: minorities)

Social invisibility refers to a group of people in the society who have been separated or systematically ignored by the majority of the public. As a result, those who are treated as insignificant or feel neglected or invisible in society.

However, there is a considerable diversity within the LGBT+ community which often leads to invisibility of certain groups. For this reason, we implemented the project 'Invisible Minorities'. Among invisible minorities encountering LGBT-related problems

during their lives are in the process of developing from a child into an adult., families and seniors.

2.) What does power have to do with fairness and justice?

Fairness is a lot more than we think. It is not only making sure that everyone is treated the same. It encourages respect, responsibility, leadership, trust and a life that matters. All of these things affect a community.

Power plays a big role in the power of justice. What is fair or just is very often decided by those who hold the power in the world. In some cases of perceived injustice, the powerful are challenged and possession of power can shift

3.) How can literature serve as a vehicle for social change?

Literature opens a door through which we can see the effects of social evils on people. It can sensitize us to the wounds of poverty, of social stigma, of injustice. It can fuel our empathy and broaden our world-view.

Student C

Date: April 6, 2022

What does it mean to be invisible? (context: minorities)

The definition of invisible is something that cannot be seen or someone who is ignored and treated as if he or she is not seen. Minorities are treated as if they aren't there as if they don't exist on earth.

What does power have to do with fairness and justice?

In order to have justice and fairness you have to have some type of power. If you have power you have the ability to change or control someone or something.

How can literature serve as a vehicle for social change?

Literature acts as a form of expression for each individual author. Some books mirror/mimic society and allow people to better understand the world they live in. Literature is a reflection of humanity in a way that most people can understand.

Day 3

Please refer back to your poem “Our Deepest Fear” and answer the following questions. Each response should be 3-4 sentences long.

Student C

Date: April 6, 2022

2.) What is your favorite line, what does it mean, and why do you like it?

My favorite line is” we ask ourselves who am i to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous” that is my favorite line because when i read it i could imagine the poet saying it to me.

3.) Have any of your thoughts changed, or do any of the lines mean something different to you? Explain. (If not, how were your original thoughts proven correct? Explain.)

No they don't mean anything different to be and my thoughts were not proven correct.

Student A

1.) What does the title refer to, and what is the effect of this way of describing it? Consider secondary meanings of strange and metaphorical meanings of fruit. In what sense(s) is blood “on the leaves” and “at the root” (line 2)?

When black people were hung blood was coming out their body and they root.

2.) What idealized feelings and images do the song's references to "swinging in the Southern breeze," poplar trees, the scent of magnolia, and the "gallant South" convey? What rhetorical and emotional effects does their juxtaposition with images of violence have?

The bad things about this poem is they are killing black people and hanging the up to trees and slowly turning into dust.

3.) Why do you think the author chose to include the description of the elements and the aftermath of the lynching in the third stanza—what rhetorical and emotional effects does this description have?

Stanza 3 talked about African American bodies swinging from a tree while it's cold.

4.) Discuss the double meaning of bitter in the last line.

What I think bitter means is that it is unpleasant to the taste.

5.) Discuss the significance of works of art like this one. Why are they important? What do they reveal about human nature?

We need art in our lives because not only do we have the ability to create tools and modify our surroundings, but we also have the curiosity for creating beauty.

Self-Identity in Today's New America

Unit by Larue Fitch, 2021-2022 Pulitzer Center Teacher Fellow


