

# Unit 4: Argument (Literary Analysis)

Content Area: **Language Arts Literacy**  
Course(s): **English 10 Honors**  
Time Period: **Marking Period 2**  
Length: **10 Blocks**  
Status: **Published**

## Course Description

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Credits: 5

Prerequisite: 85 in English 9 Honors OR 91 in English 9 CP with teacher recommendation

Grade: 10 This course is designed for the student who has developed an exceptional proficiency in critical reading and thinking as well as advanced writing skills. The literary content of this course is predominantly derived from American literature and connected non-fiction. Quantity and sophistication of selections surpasses that which is called for in the English 10 CP course. Students will study authors such as Benjamin Franklin, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Edgar Allan Poe, Kate Chopin, David Grann, and Herman Melville. Students will do a significant amount of reading independently; in addition, the writing is extensive and more sophisticated. Several research papers and/or problem-based research projects using The BIG6 information literacy model and MLA format is required.

## Unit Description

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### Stage 1-- Desired Results

**Unit Purpose:** The purpose of Unit 4: *Argument-Literary Analysis* is produce a coherent, analytical, logical argument by examining literary elements in short works. Students will draft, edit, confer, and finalize a literary analysis paper.

### Established Goals

**New Jersey Student Learning Standards:** English Language Arts Grades 9 and 10

#### Explicit:

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.

Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

Develop claim(s) and counterclaims avoiding common logical fallacies, propaganda devices, and using sound reasoning, supplying evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.

Use transitions (e.g. words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and

between claim(s) and counterclaims.

Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g. formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.

Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.

W.9-10.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)

W.9-10.5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

W.9-10.8. Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard

W.9-10.9. Draw evidence from literary or nonfiction informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Apply grades 9–10 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Analyze how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work [e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from Ovid mythology or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by Shakespeare]”).

L.9-10.3. Apply knowledge of language to make effective choices for meaning, or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading, writing, speaking or listening.

Vary word choice and sentence structure to demonstrate an understanding of the influence of language.

L.9-10.1. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

A. Use parallel structure.

B. Use various types of phrases (noun, verb, adjectival, adverbial, participial, prepositional, absolute) and clauses (independent, dependent; noun, relative, adverbial) to convey specific meanings and add variety and interest to writing or presentations.

L.9-10.2. Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

A. Use a semicolon (and perhaps a conjunctive adverb) to link two or more closely related independent clauses.

B. Use a colon to introduce a list or quotation.

C. Spell correctly.

## **Implicit:**

W.9-10.10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

L.9-10.4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.

Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy).

Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, or its etymology.

Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).

L.9-10.5. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

A. Interpret figures of speech (e.g., euphemism, oxymoron) in context and analyze their role in the text.

B. Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.

L.9-10.6. Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

## **Understandings:**

### **Students will understand that...**

- The analytical process of making observations, finding patterns, and drawing conclusions is how we investigate most things in the world.
- Thinking abstractly will help understand and appreciate literature.
- Using mentor texts strengthens and develops writing.

## **Essential Questions:**

- What cultural or societal commentary is the author posing through this work of literature?
- Why is this piece considered a work of literary merit?
- How does an author’s style and technique enhance the meaning and significance of a work of literature?
- How do literary elements work to create theme?

## Students will know...

- The components of a literary analysis essay.
- How to decipher and apply meaning.
- Use textual evidence/mentor texts to produce coherent, cohesive work.
- The steps of the writing process.

## Students will be able to...

- Write an original literary analysis essay supported by textual evidence, sound reasoning, and modeled after professional critical analysis essays.

### Stage 2 -- Assessment Evidence

#### Formative Assessments:

Quizzes (3 "Minor" Assessments)-  
Demonstration of explicitly-taught skills through quizzes

#### Summative Assessments:

Literary analysis essay

Writing On-Demand Skills Assessment

Writer's's Notebook (5 "Homework" student-selected entries) - Five entries over the course of the unit in which writing skills are explored.

### Stage 3 -- Learning Plan

#### Learning Activities:

- Introduce the standards, essential questions, assessment evidence and corresponding rubrics, and calendar of lessons to students.
- Execute standards-based mini-lessons to develop skills and strategies.
- Collaborate with assigned partners.
- Experience activities where speaking and listening skills are used during short story analysis.
- Confer individually with teacher and peers.

#### Mini-Lessons

- Introduce "Key Questions" when analyzing literary element.
- Set up Writer's Notebook
- Model brainstorming, drafting, revision process
- Thesis statement development
- MLA formatting
- Quote Analysis

#### Resources

All student selected choices available through classroom library, school or public library, or bought by student.

#### Works of Study:

*As I Lay Dying* - William Faulkner

"The Veldt"- Ray Bradbury

"Reindeer Games"- Sherman Alexie

"Mirror Image" Lena Coakley

"What of This Goldfish, Would You Wish" Etgar Keret

"The Paper Menagerie" Ken Liu

"The Story of an Hour" Kate Chopin

"The Lottery" Shirley Jackson

"Harrison Bergeron" Kurt Vonnegut

"Ambush" Tim O'Brien

"Cathedral" Raymond Carver

**Potential Works of Study:**

Various teacher and student-selected literary criticism from Bloom's Literary Reference Center

**SAT Connection:**

**SAT Connection**

Command of Evidence, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 55

Words in Context, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 61

Reading Information, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 73

Reading Synthesis, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 87

Writing & Language, *The Official SAT Study Guide*, p. 135-154

**Vocabulary:**

\*Students self-select vocabulary words, consulting flash fiction mentor texts and personal vocabulary entries in Reader's Notebook.

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**CONSIDERATIONS FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS**

**Accommodations and Modifications:**

**Students with Disabilities, English Language Learners,**

## **Students at Risk of Failure, Students with 504s, Gifted & Talented Students**

### Strategies and Practices that Support Students with Disabilities:

- Use of visual and multisensory formats
- Use of assisted technology
- Use of prompts
- Modification of content and student products
- Testing accommodations
- Authentic assessments
- Small group/One to one
- Additional time
- Review of directions
- Student restates information
- Space for movement or breaks
- Extra visual and verbal cues and prompts
- Preferential seating
- Follow a routine/schedule
- Rest breaks
- Verbal and visual cues regarding directions and staying on task
- Checklists
- Immediate feedback

### Strategies and Practices that Support Gifted & Talented Students:

- Adjusting the pace of lessons
- Curriculum compacting
- Inquiry-based instruction
- Independent study

- Higher-order thinking skills
- Interest-based content
- Student-driven instruction
- Real-world problems and scenarios
- Problem-based learning
- Interest-based research
- Authentic problem-solving

#### Strategies and Practices that Support English Language Learners:

- Pre-teaching of vocabulary and concepts
- Personal vocabulary
- Text-to-speech
- Simplified instructions
- Visual learning, including graphic organizers
- Use of cognates to increase comprehension
- Teacher modeling
- Pairing students with beginning English language skills with students who have more advanced English language skills
- Scaffolding
- Word walls
- Sentence frames
- Think-pair-share
- Cooperative learning groups

#### Strategies and Practices that Support At-Risk Students:

- Guided notes and/or scaffold outline for written assignments
- Guided reading

- Introduce key vocabulary before the lesson
- Work in a small group
- The lesson taught again using a differentiated approach
- Allow answers to be given orally or dictated
- Use visuals / Anchor Charts
- Leveled texts according to ability
- Choice Boards
- Literature circles
- Project-based learning
- Graphic organizers
- Choice books
- Mini-Workshops to reteach or extend
- Jigsaw
- Goal-setting with students
- Use of a reading buddy
- Exploration based on interest

#### Strategies and Practices that Support Students with 504 Plans:

- Follow all the 504 plan modifications
- Text-to-speech/audio-recorded selections
- Amplification system as needed
- Leveled texts according to ability
- Fine motor skill stations embedded in rotation as needed
- Modified or constrained spelling word lists
- Provide anchor charts with high-frequency words and phonemic patterns



LA.RL.9-10.1	Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.RL.9-10.2	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details and provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.9-10.3	Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
LA.RL.9-10.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).
LA.RL.9-10.5	Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create specific effects (e.g., mystery, tension, or surprise).
LA.RL.9-10.6	Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the United States, drawing on a wide reading of world literature.
LA.RL.9-10.9	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work (e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from mythology or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by Shakespeare).
LA.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.
LA.W.9-10.1.A	Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.
LA.W.9-10.1.B	Develop claim(s) and counterclaims avoiding common logical fallacies, propaganda devices, and using sound reasoning, supplying evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.
LA.W.9-10.1.C	Use transitions (e.g., words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.
LA.W.9-10.1.D	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.W.9-10.1.E	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.
LA.W.9-10.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.W.9-10.2.A	Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions; include formatting (e.g., headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
LA.W.9-10.2.B	Develop the topic with well-chosen, relevant, and sufficient facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience's knowledge of the topic.
LA.W.9-10.2.C	Use appropriate and varied transitions to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.

LA.W.9-10.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to manage the complexity of the topic.
LA.W.9-10.2.E	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.W.9-10.2.F	Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).
LA.W.9-10.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.9-10.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.W.9-10.6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology’s capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.
LA.W.9-10.10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.
LA.SL.9-10.2	Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats (e.g., visually, quantitatively, qualitatively, orally) evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source.
LA.SL.9-10.3	Evaluate a speaker’s point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, identifying any false reasoning or distorted evidence.
LA.L.9-10.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.
LA.L.9-10.1.A	Use parallel structure.
LA.L.9-10.1.B	Use various types of phrases (noun, verb, adjectival, adverbial, participial, prepositional, absolute) and clauses (independent, dependent; noun, relative, adverbial) to convey specific meanings and add variety and interest to writing or presentations.
LA.L.9-10.2.A	Use a semicolon (and perhaps a conjunctive adverb) to link two or more closely related independent clauses.
LA.L.9-10.2.B	Use a colon to introduce a list or quotation.
LA.L.9-10.2.C	Spell correctly.
LA.L.9-10.3.A	Vary word choice and sentence structure to demonstrate an understanding of the influence of language.
	Vocabulary Acquisition and Use
LA.L.9-10.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
LA.L.9-10.4.A	Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a word’s position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a word or phrase.
LA.L.9-10.4.B	Identify and correctly use patterns of word changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., analyze, analysis, analytical; advocate, advocacy).
LA.L.9-10.4.C	Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the pronunciation of a word or determine or clarify its precise meaning, its part of speech, or its etymology.
LA.L.9-10.5	Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

LA.L.9-10.5.A	Interpret figures of speech (e.g., euphemism, oxymoron) in context and analyze their role in the text.
LA.L.9-10.5.B	Analyze nuances in the meaning of words with similar denotations.
LA.L.9-10.6	Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.
LA.9-10.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. Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

## Anchor Standards

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LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R1	Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences and relevant connections from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R2	Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R3	Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R4	Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R5	Analyze the structure of texts, including how specific sentences, paragraphs, and larger portions of the text (e.g., a section, chapter, scene, or stanza) relate to each other and the whole.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R6	Assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R7	Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse media and formats, including visually and quantitatively, as well as in words.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R8	Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasoning as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R9	Analyze and reflect on how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.R10	Read and comprehend complex literary and informational texts independently and proficiently with scaffolding as needed.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W1	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W3	Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W6	Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W7	Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects, utilizing an inquiry-based research process, based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W8	Gather relevant information from multiple print and digital sources, assess the credibility and accuracy of each source, and integrate the information while avoiding plagiarism.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.K-12.NJSLSA.W10	Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

## **Interdisciplinary Standards**

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WHST.9-10.1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant sufficient textual and non-textual evidence.

A. Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among the claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

B. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims using sound reasoning, supplying data and evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both claim(s) and counterclaims in a discipline-appropriate form and in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.

C. Use transitions (e.g. words, phrases, clauses) to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.

D. Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g. formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.

E. Provide a concluding paragraph or section that supports the argument presented.

WHST.9-10.4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

WHST.9-10.5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.

WHST.9-10.6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, share, and update writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically.

## **Holocaust & Amistad Connections**

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SOC.6.1.12.A.3.h	Examine multiple perspectives on slavery and evaluate the claims used to justify the arguments.
SOC.6.1.12.A.3.i	Examine the origins of the antislavery movement and the impact of particular events, such as the Amistad decision, on the movement.
SOC.6.1.12.A.5.b	Analyze the effectiveness of governmental policies and of actions by groups and individuals to address discrimination against new immigrants, Native Americans, and African Americans.
SOC.6.1.12.A.11.e	Assess the responses of the United States and other nations to the violation of human rights that occurred during the Holocaust and other genocides.
SOC.6.1.12.D.5.d	Relate varying immigrants' experiences to gender, race, ethnicity, or occupation.
SOC.6.3.12.D.1	Analyze the impact of current governmental practices and laws affecting national security and/or individual civil rights/privacy.

### **Career Readiness, Life Literacies, & Key Skills (CLKS):**

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9.4.12.CI.1: Demonstrate the ability to reflect, analyze, and use creative skills and ideas

9.4.12.CT.2: Explain the potential benefits of collaborating to enhance critical thinking and problem solving

9.4.12.CT.4: Participate in online strategy and planning sessions for course-based, school-based, or other projects and determine the strategies that contribute to effective outcomes.

9.4.12.IML.2: Evaluate digital sources for timeliness, accuracy, perspective, credibility of the source, and relevance of information, in media, data, or other resources.

### **Computer Science & Design Thinking (CS & DT):**

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8.1.8.E.1 - Effectively use a variety of search tools and filters in professional public databases to find information to solve a real world problem.

8.1.8.D.4 - Assess the credibility and accuracy of digital content

### **LGBTQ & Persons With Disabilities**

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#### **Persons With Disabilities**

"Cathedral" Raymond Carver

#### **LQBTQ**

"What Happened at the Stonewall Riots?"