

Comparative Essay

Content Area: **English Language Arts**
Course(s): **Language Arts 5**
Time Period: **April**
Length: **4 Weeks**
Status: **Published**

Unit Summary

This study are in response to reading. Students can have opportunities to write all types of genre that they've explored this year. They can create expository non-fiction text about the author, argue why their author is important to 5th graders, or even create narrative take-offs in the style of the author. As this is the last unit of the year, teachers may want to turn their students loose on writing and let them decide which genre speaks the most to them.

Standards

LA.W.5.2	Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.
LA.W.5.2.A	Introduce a topic clearly to provide a focus and group related information logically; include text features such as headings, illustrations, and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.
LA.W.5.2.B	Develop the topic with facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples related to the topic.
LA.W.5.2.C	Link ideas within paragraphs and sections of information using words, phrases, and clauses (e.g., in contrast, especially).
LA.W.5.2.D	Use precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to inform about or explain the topic.
LA.W.5.2.E	Provide a conclusion related to the information of explanation presented.
LA.W.5.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)
LA.W.5.8	Recall relevant information from experiences or gather relevant information from print and digital sources; summarize or paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide a list of sources.
LA.W.5.9	Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
LA.W.5.9.A	Apply grade 5 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Compare and contrast two or more characters, settings, or events in a story or a drama, drawing on specific details in the text [e.g., how characters interact]”).
LA.L.5.1.A	Explain the function of conjunctions, prepositions, and interjections in general and their function in particular sentences.
LA.L.5.1.B	Form and use the perfect (e.g., I had walked; I have walked; I will have walked) verb tenses.
LA.L.5.1.C	Use verb tense to convey various times, sequences, states, and conditions.
LA.L.5.1.D	Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb tense.
LA.L.5.1.E	Use correlative conjunctions (e.g., either/or, neither/nor).

LA.L.5.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.
LA.L.5.2.A	Use punctuation to separate items in a series.
LA.L.5.2.B	Use a comma to separate an introductory element from the rest of the sentence.
LA.L.5.2.C	Use a comma to set off the words yes and no (e.g., Yes, thank you), to set off a tag question from the rest of the sentence (e.g., It's true, isn't it?), and to indicate direct address (e.g., Is that you, Steve?).
LA.L.5.2.D	Use underlining, quotation marks, or italics to indicate titles of works.
LA.L.5.2.E	Spell grade-appropriate words correctly, consulting references as needed.
LA.L.5.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.
LA.L.5.3.A	Expand, combine, and reduce sentences for meaning, reader/listener interest, and style.
LA.L.5.3.B	Compare and contrast the varieties of English (e.g., dialects, registers) used in stories, dramas, or poems.

Student Learning Objectives

Students will learn to:

- develop a thesis about the author's craft and support it with textual evidence.
- research the author's background and understand their writing lives

Essential Questions

- How can I show a reader my selected author in the best light?
- How do I use informational writing to teach unfamiliar readers about my author?
- How can I use both print and digital sources to inform my readers of this author?

Enduring Understandings

Students will understand that: