



K-12 Teach EU Studies Bootcamp Summer 2024

All About Anthems: A Nationalism Introduction

Sarah Forster
Wichita, KS

World History, Grades 9-12



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All About Anthems

A Nationalism Introduction

Project Description:

This project was built for a 9th grade World History (Renaissance to World War I) course with an emphasis on ESOL literacy strategies.

Students will be introduced to anthems and what we can learn from them in this lesson. Starting with a class analysis activity, students will analyze the anthem of the European Union, *Ode to Joy*. Through this analysis activity they will learn how to break apart an anthem and analyze the music and lyrics of a song. After learning how to analyze the music, students will break apart national anthems in small groups and look for examples of nationalism to share with the class.

Lesson Breakdown and Timing:

This lesson can be done in one 80 minute block or it can be split into two 40 minute lessons.

Resources:

- All About Anthems Slideshow
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Bx5b9IPabZf-mpCVOgOk0IqHrjYPSIMdycHVIqZ_oPM/copy
- Analyzing Anthems Worksheet
https://docs.google.com/document/d/10mCz-kU6z9FeP0VrFJcCmTdG5cey8_yhq45ntXSDHf0/copy
- *Ode to Joy* Lyrics and Information
<https://www.classical-music.com/articles/ode-to-joy-lyrics>

https://european-union.europa.eu/principles-countries-history/symbols/european-anthem_en

Lesson Outline

Lesson Objective: Using an analysis guide, students will analyze anthems for examples of nationalism.

Kansas HGSS Standards:

- **Standard 5.1** - The student will recognize and evaluate dynamic relationships that impact lives in communities, states, and nations.

Activity Outline:

1. Start the lesson with a “turn and talk” activity. Pose the question: What is an anthem? Have students share with a partner what their thoughts are. If students don’t know, encourage them to make an educated guess of what an anthem might be. When students are done sharing, have a few students share their thoughts.
2. Introduce the definition of an anthem to the class. Give the example on the following slide, then ask students if they have any experiences with anthems.
3. Give each student a copy of the “Analyzing Anthems” worksheet and tell them that the goal of this activity is to analyze anthems and learn from them. Have students start on the side of the worksheet that says “Let’s Practice” for the first activity.
4. Pose the question: What can we learn from an anthem? Explain to students that you are going to use the European Union’s anthem to practice analyzing a song. On the directions slide, pause to go over the directions with students and briefly go over the worksheet together.
5. Once you have gone over the directions, play the *Ode to Joy* lyric video for the class. After playing, use the following slides to analyze the song together as a class and complete the summary activity. Take time to discuss the EU’s decision to remove the lyrics when they adopted the song. Use the guiding questions to help generate thoughts and conversation with the students. You can write along with the students on the slides using a writing tool, touchscreen projector (i.e. Smartboard), or by typing into the boxes provided.

***NOTE:** If breaking up this lesson, this would be a good place to stop your activity.*

6. Once you have completed the practice analysis, introduce students to the idea of a national anthem. Have students share what they think they can learn about a country from their national anthem. You could implement a “whip around and pass” activity for this or just a brainstorm discussion.

7. Have students take note of the definition of nationalism and what it can inspire, both good and bad. Remind students that national anthems can tell you about what is important or valuable to each country. These ideas are what they believe create a strong citizen.
8. Put students into groups of 2-3. Explain that each group will be assigned a national anthem to listen to and analyze. Go over the directions provided and remind students that we are analyzing with nationalism in mind. Have students turn their worksheet over to the back, where they can complete a second analysis activity on their own.
9. There are three national anthems provided on this activity: United States, United Kingdom, and France. You are welcome to use them or incorporate your own music as it fits with your curriculum. NOTE: You may encourage the students analyzing the French anthem to listen to 1 minute and 45 seconds of the video, as it is much longer than the others.
10. After students have had time to analyze their songs and complete the worksheet as a team, use the compare and contrast slide to take notes of what they learned. Once lists are compiled, have students go back through as a class and mark or note examples of nationalism that they have discovered in their analysis.
11. Wrap up this activity with the “team write” activity located on the back slide. Each team can complete this activity on a piece of paper or a note card depending on resources available. Have students share their final thoughts about nationalism and what their takeaways are for nationalism.