



K-12 Teacher EU Studies Bootcamp

Summer 2022

The Web of Cultural Identity

Arlene Keesee
Mainland High School, FL

ELA English, Grade 11

Concepts:

1. The European Union is struggling to create a common Nation in the face of individual country's desire to hold on to their individual national identities.
2. When the United States was first formed, it was a group of several independent states with their own currency, flags, values and ideals who wanted to hold on to their individual identities.
3. Several factors led to the successful forming of these independent states into the United States of America and this oneness is highlighted in a writer's poem.
4. The theme of oneness can be developed through the use of imagery and figurative language in a poem.

Objectives:

Students will evaluate how a writer uses imagery and figurative language to develop a theme of shared experiences and oneness.

Lesson Standards (Florida):

ELA.11.R.1.1 Evaluate how key elements enhance or add layers of meaning and/or style in a literary text.

ELA.11.R.1.2 Track and analyze universal themes in literary texts from different times and places.

Attachments:

- PowerPoint

How can understanding the issues now facing the European Union help us better understand the idea of oneness in the complicated history and entrenched ideals of the United States of America?

Teacher: Arlene Keesee

Subject: ELA English 3- American Literature

Grade: 11th



What Concepts Will Students Learn?



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

Concept One: The European Union is struggling to create a common Nation in the face of individual country's desire to hold on to their individual national identities.

Concept Two: When the United States was first formed, it was a group of several independent states with their own currency, flags, values and ideals who wanted to hold on to their individual identities.

Concept Three: Several factors led to the successful forming of these independent states into the United States of America and this oneness is highlighted in a writer's poem.

Concept Four: The theme of oneness can be developed through the use of imagery and figurative language in a poem.

THE WEB OF CULTURAL IDENTITY

How we are
who we are

Do Now: Can we be several things or play several roles at the same time? Explain. Why is a web a good analogy to illustrate this?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=COD9hcTpGWQ>

Watch the video and answer the question below.

Can the African players be African, French and European at the same time? Explain.



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-NC](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/)

Lesson(Part I): The National Identity vs the European Identity

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p9hhXLho94>

As you watch the video, take notes using Cornell Notes template on some factors which help create a national identity and what are the problems with creating a European identity.

Cornell Notes Template:

https://academicaffairs.du.edu/sites/default/files/2022-03/cornell_notes_template.pdf

How did the thirteen original colonies become the United States of America?

Watch the video and read the article; add notes to your Cornell Notes worksheet about the original colonies and what led to their becoming a united nation.



Lesson (Part II): How does shared experiences and ideas despite differences unite a people?

Read the poem “One Today” by Richard Blanco and examine how he uses imagery and figurative language to develop the theme of a shared experience and oneness.

<https://poets.org/poem/one-today>



What Is Imagery? (Model Lesson):

Imagery is the act of using language to create images in the reader's mind. Writers use descriptive words and phrases to help the reader to see, hear, feel, smell or touch something he is describing.

Basically, the writer is trying to create a "mental image" for the reader through the words he/she chooses. Here's how one of the greatest horror writers of all time, Stephen King, describes imagery:

Imagery does not occur on the writer's page; it occurs in the reader's mind. To describe everything is to supply a photograph in words; to indicate the points which seem the most vivid and important to you, the writer, is to allow the reader to flesh out your sketch into a portrait.



Lesson- (Modeling Cont'd): Imagery

In other words: you can think of imagery as painting with words in order to fuel the reader's imagination! An easy way to spot imagery in a text is to pay attention to words, phrases, and sentences that connect with your five senses (sight, smell, taste, touch, and sound). That's because writers know that in order to capture a reader's attention, they need to engage with them mentally, physically, and emotionally. Since imagery is designed to connect a reader to a text, it's one of the most powerful tools a writer has to communicate their themes and messages.


Reread the poem and identify five images that develop the idea of shared experiences and oneness: Complete the graphic organizer. I will do the first two examples in the poem.

https://www.creatingculturalcompetencies.org/uploads/1/1/2/6/112618631/2_poetry_graphic_organizer_examples.pdf

In your groups, reread the poem and identify three additional images.

Lesson (Guided Practice):





The Theme of Shared Experiences and Oneness (Practice)

How does the writer use figurative language and imagery to bring out the theme of oneness in his poem?

Let's review figurative language:

<https://quizizz.com/join?gc=37413341>

In your groups complete the SIFT graphic organizer and be sure to analyze how the writer develops his theme of oneness in the poem.

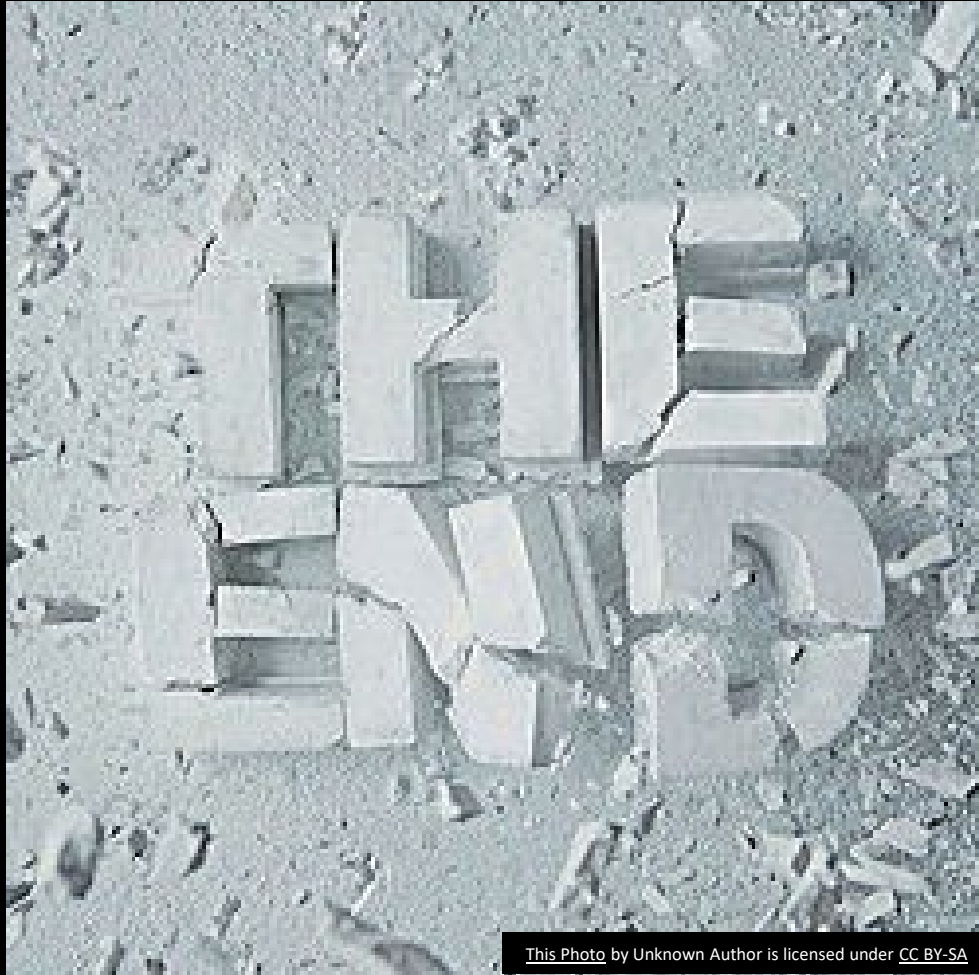


Lesson (Final Assessment):



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY](#)

Using your SIFT graphic organizer, write an essay in which you discuss how the writer's use of imagery and figurative language bring out the theme of oneness in the poem "One Today." In your last body paragraph, advise the European Union Commission on ways in which they can continue to develop a European Identity using the ideas from the poem (you may want to do some research on shared European experiences and review the European Identity video).



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under [CC BY-SA](#)

