

## **ELA Exemplar Module Tasks**

### **Jumping Frog of Calaveras County (8<sup>th</sup> ELA)**

#### *Task Template 6 - Argumentation*

Is Mark Twain's story of a jumping frog satire or only humorous? After reading The Jumping Frog of Calaveras County, write essay in which you discuss "satire" and "humor" and evaluate whether Twain's writing was satire or humor. Support your position with evidence from the text(s).

### **Author Study: Kate Chopin (11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>)**

#### *Task Template 21 - Informational or Explanatory*

How does Chopin use character development to shape themes for larger political and social commentary? After reading "The Awakening", "The Story of an Hour", "Desiree's Child" and "The Storm", write article in which you analyze character development specifically in relation to other characters in the text and generally in relation to social and political context , providing examples to clarify your analysis.

**D 3** What conclusions or implications can you draw?

**D 8** Include bibliography or works cited.

### **The Power of Language (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)**

#### *Task Template 23 - Informational or Explanatory*

How does language structure shape meaning? After reading , "Birches," "Trees," "Thirteen Ways with Figs" and the Fig Butter Recipe, write an essay in which you compare the effects of different language structures on meaning. Support your discussion with evidence from the text(s).

### **TO BE OR NOT TO BE: The Evolution of Hamlet's Personality ( 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup>)**

#### *Task Template 23 - Informational or Explanatory*

How does Hamlet's personality evolve during the course of the play? After reading Hamlet, write essay in which you compare his state of mind early in the play to his state of mind late in the play. Support your discussion with evidence from the text(s).

## **The Lottery (6<sup>th</sup>)**

### *Task Template 21 - Informational or Explanatory*

How does Shirley Jackson's choice of words and phrases in "The Lottery" impact the tone of the story? After reading "The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson, write essay in which you analyze the impact of word choice on the story's tone, providing examples to clarify your analysis.

**D 8** Include citations.

## **Existentialism and Kafka (10<sup>th</sup>)**

### *Task Template 11 - Informational or Explanatory*

After researching essays and articles on existentialism, write essay in which you define existentialism and explain its impact on Franz Kafka's work "The Metamorphosis". Support your discussion with evidence from your research.

- **D 3** What conclusions can you draw?
- **D 8** Include in text citations and a works cited page.

## **Text Analysis and Character Revelations: Flowers for Algernon (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>)**

### *Task Template IE3 - Informational or Explanatory*

How does Keyes use Charlie's reflections to expose his persona? After reading the short story, "Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes, write an essay in which you explain how Keyes reveals aspects of Charlie's character over the course of the text through pivotal lines of your choosing. Support your discussion with evidence from the texts.

## **Rhetorical Analysis for Pre-AP English (10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>)**

### *Task Template 21 - Informational or Explanatory*

How does Sarah Vowell use rhetorical elements in the essay "Shooting Dad," and how does the use of these elements create a specific effect? After reading selected texts, write an essay in which you analyze the author's rhetorical strategies to answer these questions, providing examples to clarify your analysis. What conclusions or implications can you draw?

## **The Scarlet Letter and Hester Prynne (11<sup>th</sup>)**

Is Hester Prynne a virtuous woman? After reading *The Scarlet Letter*, write an essay in which you discuss Hester's Prynne's character attributes and evaluate her virtues in connection with Proverbs 31. Support your position with evidence from the text(s).

## **Student-Determined Data Analysis (11<sup>th</sup>)**

After researching available scientific articles about your chosen research topic/question, write a data analysis report in which you argue your findings using the publicly-available data. Support your position with evidence from the text/s. Be sure to acknowledge competing views. Identify any gaps or unanswered questions. Include in-text citations and a bibliography in APA format. Include charts, tables, and/or graphs to help convey your message to your readers. Connect the dependent variable(s) and independent variable(s) in your response. Give at least three example/s from past or current events to illustrate and clarify your position.

## **The Art of Persuasion: How Rhetorical Devices Influence Audiences (9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>)**

Task Template IE4 - Informational or Explanatory

How does Martin Luther King Jr. utilize persuasive techniques to influence others? After reading King's "I Have a Dream" speech, write an essay in which you analyze the rhetorical devices: parallelism, analogy, and repetition King uses to support his argument. Support your discussion with evidence from the text/s.

## **American Dream: Reality, Promise or Illusion? (10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>)**

Task Template 19 - Informational or Explanatory

To what extent do these authors perceive the American Dream to be a reality, a promise, or an illusion? After reading *The Great Gatsby*, foundational American documents and essays, and the poetry of Walt Whitman and Langston Hughes, write an essay in which you explain how these texts illustrate the American Dream. Support your discussion with evidence from the text(s). What conclusions or implications can you draw? Include citations for at least three sources.

## **ELA Good to Go Module Tasks**

### **Growing Up is Hard to Do (7<sup>th</sup>)**

Task Template 21 - Informational or Explanatory

How does author Gary Soto's work develop the theme of growing up? After reading a selected short story by Gary Soto, write an essay that addresses the question and analyzes how the author uses story elements to reveal the theme, providing examples to clarify your analysis. What conclusion or implications can you draw? A bibliography not required.

### **The Tale Tell Heart and the Unreliable Narrator (8<sup>th</sup>)**

Task Template 21 - Informational or Explanatory

How does Edgar Allan Poe create a narrator you cannot trust? After reading “The Tell Tale Heart”, write an essay in which you analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in the story reveal aspects of the narrator’s character, providing examples to clarify your analysis.

### **Humor: How Does it Work? (9<sup>th</sup>)**

Task Template 21 - Informational or Explanatory

How do the theories of humor apply to your selected text/s? After reading selected informational and humorous texts, write an essay in which you analyze the different theories of humor and explain how these apply to the texts, providing examples to clarify your analysis. Include evidence from text and citations.

### **Exploring Character Development in The Watsons Go to Birmingham – 1963 (5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>)**

Task Template 4-5.18 - Informational or Explanatory

How do characters within a story develop differently as a result of experiencing the same events? After reading The Watsons Go to Birmingham - 1963, write an essay in which you compare and contrast how Kenny and Byron change as a result of their experiences in Birmingham. Support your response with evidence from the text/s. Explain how key details from the text support/s your response.