



Here's a list of what we did in our February 2015 Master Class on *The Pearl*, followed by the state standards covered (two pages total):

Literary Analysis

- Analyzed the narrative arc in relation to character and theme
- Compared the story to a parable, specifically the idea of "pearl of great price"
- Found parallels in this story with fall from Innocence/loss of paradise
- Talked about issues of race and colonization
- Noted cultures around the world having stories in which pearls have special meaning or "grant all desires"
- Compared "The Pearl" with the folktale that inspired it
- Reviewed key concepts in relation to this story:
 - Internal vs external conflict
 - Fate vs human agency
 - Foreshadowing
 - Static vs dynamic characters
 - Point of view (1st vs 3rd) and how that affects our understanding of character
 - Literal meaning vs symbolic meaning
- Recognized and elaborated upon symbols in the narrative

Writing

- Learned how to cite selections from the story to support your argument
- Discussed when to use block quotations vs in-text quotations
- Reviewed essay vs paragraph structure
- Learned how to make transitions between ideas and paragraphs; transitional phrases
- Explained the concepts behind writing as a process
- Defined terms used as part of writing process
- Took turns using specific references to the story to argue a position in writing
- Learned how to compare and weigh evidence when formulating a position
- Worked collaborative and individually

Reading Standards for Literature 9-12

Grades 9-10

- RL 9-10.1
- RL 9-10.2
- RL 9-10.3
- RL 9-10.4
- RL 9-10.5
- RL 9-10.9

Grades 11-12

- RL 11-12.1
- RL 11-12.2
- RL 11-12.3
- RL 11-12.4
- RL 11-12.5

Writing Standards for 9-12

Grades 9-10

- W 9-10.1a
- W 9-10.1d
- W 9-10.4
- W 9-10.5
- W 9-10.9a
- W 9-10.10
- W 9-10.1c
- W 9-10.4
- W 9-10.9a

Grades 11-12

- W 11-12.1a
- W 11-12.1d
- W 11-12.4
- W 11-12.10
- W 11-12.1c
- W 11-12.4
- W 11-12.5



continued

Speaking and Listening Standards for 9-12

Grades 9-10

SL 9-10.1a SL 9-10.1c
SL 9-10.1d SL 9-10.3

Grades 11-12

SL 11-12.1a SL 11-12.1c
SL 11-12.1d SL 11-12.3

Language Standards for 9-12

Grades 9-10

L 9-10.1b L 9-10.4a
L 9-10.1L 9-10.5

Grades 11-12

L 11-12.4a L 11-12.5a

Visual Arts Content Standards for 9-12

Artistic Perception 1.1

Creative Expression 2.1, 2.4

Aesthetic Valuing 4.4

For correlating details about each of these standards, please visit The California Common Core State Standards website at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/be/st/ss/documents/finalelaccsstandards.pdf>.

The A-G writing goals addressed in this workshop:

Writing about theme in a short story/novella;

- a) Critically Responding to a Proposed Theme

- b) Critically Asserting Your Own Them

The fine arts component of our LitWits Master Classes are eligible for Ocean Grove high school credit; parents should talk with your ES to determine its place in your student's course list.