Annotated Bibliography


- This story shows how one man is shaped by the actions of both his sibling and his parents (especially his mom). Their actions began shaping the outcome of his life when he was younger, and continued into adulthood. This is a good story for the boys in the class to relate to.


- Burke is a great source which I have gotten many ideas for strategies from. I adapted the literary circles strategy from Burke. I also adapted the vocabulary squares strategy from Burke. His book is useful for strategies for all topics of the Language Arts curriculum from vocabulary to writing to reading comprehension.

“Character Trading Cards.” Read-Write-Think. 2006. 29 Nov 2008


- I originally got the idea for character cards from Jim Burke, but when I began searching on the internet to find a template to adapt I found this website and I thought it was awesome. I think that the students would find this website more interesting and fun than filling out a piece of paper. I think it would be a way to get the students involved in analyzing the text.


<http://www.myenglishteacher.net/USINGCOLONS.HTML>.

- I consulted this website as well as the other when I was putting together my teacher’s notes for the mini-grammar lesson on the colon. I adapted the type of graphic organizer I wanted to use for my class from the questions given on this website. I chose to loosely format my lesson after the information on this website.

- “Barn Burning” shows how a boy is shaped by the actions of his father’s criminal activities. He overcomes his father’s oppression and runs away from him. Although the ending will need to be discussed (running away is not good) I like this story because I think it is a good story to show that is okay for a child to do the right thing even though the parents may not.”


- I liked the idea of the character journals and having my students place themselves in the role of the character. Obviously, I adapted it and made some changes from the original lesson plan which was focused for Shakespeare. I think it is good to get the students to think as a character.


- This short story demonstrates how the advice given by a parent can shape the opinions a girl (or any child) can have of herself and her behavior. It is short and easily read, so I would assign it to the low level readers for the jigsaw activity.


- O’Keefe is another good source. Many of the strategies she provides are beneficial for communications. I adapted the Round Robin questions activity from O’Keefe. Its original purpose was for communication but I thought it would be a good activity to use to get the students talking to each other but also to get them exploring the text by writing questions.

- This story differs from the other two because it focuses more on how the character is shaped by her mother’s actions and dream. She does eventually meet her half-sisters who have an influence in her life.


- This website was beneficial in helping me put some teacher’s notes together for my mini-grammar lesson. It explained the colon and helped me decide what I want to teach my students.


- I chose to use this story because the interaction between the characters is not as obvious as in some of the other stories. This could be a good story to assign to higher level reading students. They would have to infer from the text how the characters are shaped by each other.


- This story shows how the actions of a sibling can shape a young girl’s life. Maggie’s personality was dimmed by her sister’s beauty, vitality and greediness. This is a good story for shy girls with outgoing sisters to be able to relate to.