

***Lord of the Flies* by William Golding** (Published by Berkley Publishing Group)

Approved for use in Honors Communication Arts I and Communication Arts I

Summary

A group of British schoolboys crashes on a deserted island. As they determine that no adults have survived, they begin the process of organizing themselves for survival purposes. Initially, all is well as basic needs are met and rescue seems plausible. However, human nature intervenes; power struggles arise and attention to commonly accepted societal practices erodes in favor of chaos and disorder. Ultimately, through the novel's lead protagonist, Golding leaves the reader with the awareness of the need for virtue, goodness, and order.

Connection to the Curriculum

Golding uses the isolated setting of a deserted island and a group of young boys attempting to survive in this cautionary fable about evil, fear of the unknown, and inhumanity within the civilized societies of today. Golding maintains that reason and moral sense must exist in a society for it to grow and flourish. Within this novel, Golding sheds light on the importance of self-control, perseverance and cooperativeness. The critical reader will also extend the story into his/her own society as a means of reflecting on, questioning and understanding his/her own world. Opportunities for recognition of foreshadowing, symbolism, and imagery make this novel an important part of the CAI curriculum.

Standards

Course Objectives (Benchmarks)

Reading: 1.4- The students comprehend a variety of texts.

Literature: 2.1-The students use literary concepts to interpret and respond to text. 2.2- The students understand the significance of literature and its contributions to various cultures.

Writing: 3.9- The students use a variety of modes of writing for different purposes and audiences.

Possible Skills Taught (Indicators)

Reading:

1.4.10- The student generates and responds logically to literal, inferential, evaluative, and critical thinking questions before, during, and after reading the text.

Literature:

2.1.1- The student identifies types of characters and analyzes the development of characters (including foil characters).

2.1.2- The student analyzes the historical, social and cultural contextual aspects of the setting and their influence on characters and events in the story of a literary text.

2.1.5- The student identifies, analyzes, and evaluates the use of literary devices (specifically allegory, symbolism, and archetypal elements) in a text.

Writing:

3.9.35- The student produces expository pieces.

A Note on the Text: (The best way to evaluate and understand a novel is to personally read the book in its entirety.)

Golding's fictional island adventures expose the reader to his views of society and his belief in the evil inherent in man. The text includes violence (beatings and other abusive treatment that results in a death), mild profanity, and rituals developed by the stranded boys. At the center of any negative images lies the message of the novel.

AP Connections

This novel provides reinforcement of close critical reading of a text in order to apply knowledge of syntax, tone, diction, and figurative language. The novel has been referenced on AP exams.

Additional Unit Design Connections

Coming soon:

To be completed during future curriculum development activities