

***Twelve Angry Men* by Reginald Rose** (Published by Dramatic Publishing)

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

Summary

In a muggy, drab courtroom, twelve anonymous jurors are called upon to seal the fate of a young boy accused of killing his father. From the opening instructions given by the judge, to the final vote in Act III, readers of this play will encounter an eclectic jury room of characters as they wrestle with a slew of evidence, share passionate views on the justice system, and finally determine what is fair and just in an imperfect system.

Connection to the Curriculum

Twelve Angry Men is an ideal selection for the CAI curriculum as it explores the heroic qualities necessary to reconcile people with opposing viewpoints. While determining a young boy's guilt or innocence, the characters in *Twelve Angry Men* expose their prejudices and fears while attempting to come to a just conclusion. The readers of this play will experience the power language has to influence seemingly unshakeable points of view. The characters in this play are deftly created, and students will marvel at how involved they become in the lives of the characters, the suspense of this story, and the intricacies of determining guilt and innocence.

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.

Writing: 3.2- The students use the writing process including preparing, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing to produce a written text.

Possible Skills Taught (Indicators)

Reading:

1.4.13- The student compares and contrasts varying aspects (character traits and motives, ideas, themes, problem-solution, etc.) in one or more appropriate-level texts.

1.4.21- The student distinguishes between fact and opinion, and recognizes propaganda, bias, and stereotypes in various types of appropriate-level texts.

Literature:

2.1.1- The student identifies and describes different types of character (protagonist, antagonist, round, flat, static and dynamic) and analyzes the development of 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 literary text.

2.1.3- The student will analyze and evaluate how the author uses various plot elements (e.g., conflict, crisis/turning moment, climax, etc.) to advance the plot and make connections between events.

Writing:

3.2.5- The student uses the writing process to develop a final copy in one of the following modes: narration, exposition, persuasion, or poetry.

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

This intense courtroom drama reveals stereotypical beliefs that can get in the way of justice. Readers should be aware that due to the setting, the jury is comprised of all males (as indicated in the title).

AP Connections

Additional Unit Design Connections

Coming soon:

To be completed during future curriculum development activities