

***The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka (Published by Bantam Publishing)**

Approved for use in Advanced Placement Communication Arts IV

Summary

The Metamorphosis is the story of Gregor Samsa's wild and surreal overnight transformation from a young man making his way in the world into a giant beetle-like insect. This is Kafka's existential exploration of the meaning of existence.

Connection to the Curriculum

Kafka's *The Metamorphosis* explores the concepts of isolation, existence, inadequacy, and remorse through this metaphorical tale. Through Gregor's personal struggle with his metamorphosis and his new place, or lack thereof, in his family and the world, Kafka details his existential ideas. Students can analyze the figurative language and literary devices Kafka uses in this detailed exploration. In-depth discussions on all the themes and literary elements used by Kafka are possible. Students will wrestle with the enduring questions that have always plagued mankind.

Standards

Course Objectives (Benchmarks)

Reading: 1.1- The students read fluently. 1.3- The students expand vocabulary. 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: 3.4- The students use organization that enhances the reader's understanding.

Possible Skills Taught (Indicators)

Reading:

1.3.5- The student identifies, interprets, and analyzes the use of figurative language.

1.4.7- The student identifies characteristics of narrative, expository, technical, and persuasive texts.

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

1.4.11- The student uses information from the text to make inferences and draw conclusions.

1.4.17- The student analyzes and evaluates how an author's style and use of literary devices work together to achieve his or her purpose for writing text.

Literature:

2.1.4- The student analyzes themes, tone, and the author's point of view across a variety of literary works and genres using textual evidence and considering audience and purpose.

2.2.6- The student recognizes ways that literature from different cultures presents similar themes differently across genres.

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

This novel examines the idea of change through the eyes of a man who has transformed into a giant vermin.

AP Connections

The Metamorphosis has been referenced on the Advanced Placement Literature exam, and for many local and national colleges and universities, it is considered essential college-preparatory reading.

Additional Unit Design Connections

Coming soon