

**PRE-GED LESSON PLAN - Language Arts, Writing (Level 6.0 - 8.9)**

**COMPETENCY:** 1.12 Use literary techniques, including symbols and foreshadowing, in the comprehension and creation of written and visual communication.

**CONNECTIONS:** 2.10, 4.11, 4.12

**Classroom Procedure:**

1. Distribute two copies of "Working Definition" worksheet to each student and a dictionary to each group.
2. Divide the class into groups for this "Jigsaw" learning activity by counting off 1-4. Assign each group two of the following literary terms to research: **metaphor, simile, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification, symbolism, foreshadowing, and rhyme**  
Have students write the word and its definition in the appropriate boxes on the "Working Definition" sheet.  
Have groups fill in as many synonyms and antonyms as possible in the ovals. Have students research examples in reference books or on the Internet and fill in the "examples" and "non-examples" boxes on the worksheet.
3. Re-group the class so that each new group has one member from each definition group (one of each number from the original count off)  
Each member of the new group has the responsibility of teaching about their assigned words to the other group members.
4. Distribute copies of the first six stanzas of the poem "The Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes and read the excerpt aloud.  
Have students (in their new groups or individually) mark the following on their copy of the poem:
  - a. Underline examples of similes.
  - b. Double-underline examples of metaphors.
  - c. Circle the repeated letters in a phrase with alliteration.
  - d. Draw a box around examples of onomatopoeia.
5. Discuss the poet's use of rhyme and rhyme pattern, the use of repetition for effect and have students look for foreshadowing, symbolism or personification.  
*Extend the lesson by having students read the poem in its entirety to confirm the foreshadowing and look for other literary devices and figurative language.*

**Vocabulary:**  
 literal language  
 figurative language  
 metaphor  
 simile  
 alliteration  
 repetition  
 onomatopoeia  
 personification  
 symbol/symbolism  
 foreshadowing

**Alternative assignment:**

If computers are available to students, the assignment can be completed using the word processing software and an copy of the excerpt on disk.  
Have students use the word processing tools to:

- a. Underline examples of similes.
- b. Change examples of metaphors to bold type.
- c. Highlight in yellow phrases containing alliteration.
- d. Change examples of onomatopoeia to italics.

**Teacher-Made or  
Alternative Material:**

**Pre-GED Textbooks:**

Steck-Vaughn Pre-GED:  
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**Materials Needed:**

Dictionaries, reference books  
 Copies of "Working Definition"  
 graphic organizer worksheet  
 Copies of excerpt from "The  
 Highwayman" by Alfred Noyes  
 Literary Terms Reference

**Supplemental Resources:**

Glossary and examples of literary terms:  
[http://www.tnellen.com/cybereng/lit\\_terms/index.html](http://www.tnellen.com/cybereng/lit_terms/index.html)  
 For the complete version of "The Highwayman"  
[www.johnlockhart.com/docs/highwayman.html](http://www.johnlockhart.com/docs/highwayman.html)

**Evaluation:**

Teacher evaluation of correct identification of  
 examples of figurative language in the poem.