

Template for Designing a Text Assignment

Text name: The World Almanac and Book of Facts (students have different years 1990-1999) (Kaiserslautern High School)

Objectives for this text: Students will

- Learn purpose and organization of an almanac
- Learn to locate information in an almanac
- Locate information expeditiously by using quick references
- Write a "year in review" paper based on the highlights of the year of the almanac with which the student has been working

Stage of Reading	What I'll have students do to support their reading and learning at this stage (i.e. Strategies I'll use).
<p style="text-align: center;">INTO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • get students "into" the text • build/tap into prior knowledge • predict/preread • develop vocabulary • look at text structure • generate questions • anticipate assumptions 	<p>Queries: Who hit the most homeruns in 1996? Who won the Grammy for "rap solo in 1992? What movie won for best picture in 1991? Who was the first president to live in the White House? Present questions to which students would like to know the answers.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">THROUGH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help students process their reading as they move "through" it • monitor understanding • determine main and sub ideas • make connections to prior learning and experience • summarize/paraphrase 	<p>Introduce the almanac: Give each student one; let them choose the year. Tell them what an almanac is and read the description on the back cover aloud. Explain the Quick Thumb Reference on the back cover and the index. Have students look through his or her almanac as sections are being explained. Ask them to read portions aloud. Categories</p>

in almanacs vary from year to year, so have them name some of the categories (business and technology, economics, sports etc.). Then ask one of the questions posed earlier. Ask students in what category they would look to find the answers. Do several of these from different categories so students can get an idea of the scope of the almanac.

BEYOND

- help students clarify, reinforce, and build on their understanding as they move "beyond" the text
- graphically organize the text's ideas
- evaluate a text's or author's argument
- compare/contrast ideas
- connect to other texts
- apply the information

After students have had sufficient practice locating facts, have them search for the information they identified earlier (things they wanted to know). Have them share that information with a partner and some of the most interesting facts with the class.

Once the students feel comfortable accessing the information, have them make a graphic organizer of the top stories of the year in entertainment, sports, politics, and hard news.

From there they make an outline for a five paragraph essay titled "The Year in Review" (1990, 1991, etc.) Students will

Continue through the writing process until they produce a final draft, which they turn in as part of their quarter project grade.

The final step in this unit is students presenting a three-minute talk titled "Bouncin' Back to 1990", etc., based on the information used in the paper. For his or her presentation, students adhere to the fashion trends of the time. They are encouraged to bring audio visual aids to enhance their presentations. Index cards must be used (as opposed to paper) for notes, and students will receive a mini lesson on making a speech/talk before they present.

This activity will constitute the other half of their quarter project grade (total of 300 points).

Standards this lesson addresses: ALL STANDARDS as almanacs are inclusive of all types of information.

Standard 1 - Reading

Standard 2 - Writing

Standard 3 - Speaking, Listening, Viewing

Standard 4 - Conventions, Grammar, Usage of the English Language

Standard 5 - Literature

Standard 6 - Public Documents

Standard 7 - Functional Documents

(Reference to Into/Through/Beyond strategies page 12 *Write Path*)