

WV TREE Resource: English Language Arts

Resource Name: "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" Analysis Exemplar

Grade Level(s): 5th Grade 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th Grade 9th Grade
 10th Grade 11th Grade 12th Grade

Resource Summary/Overview: This resource takes a famous work of American history and exemplifies analysis of it through ethos, pathos, logos, and argumentation.

Length: 90-120 minutes

Domain(s) Addressed: Reading Writing Speaking/Listening Language

West Virginia College- and Career-Readiness Standards:

ELA.11.11 In informational text, analyze and evaluate the effectiveness of the structure an author uses in his or her exposition or argument, including whether the structure makes points clear, convincing, engaging.

ELA.11.12 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in an informational text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness, or beauty of the text.

Delivery Method(s): Direct Instruction Whole Group Pairs
 Small Group Computer-based Individual
 Other (explain): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Resource Materials: Text(s) Handouts Media Rubric
 Other (explain): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Resource Purpose(s): Engage/Activate Introduce Topic/Skill Review Topic/Skill
 Formative Assessment Summative Assessment
 Reinforce Skill Enrichment Intervention/Support
 Other (explain): [Click here to enter text.](#)

Instructor Notes: This versatile lesson from Dr. Michael O'Conner can be used as starter piece for rhetorical analysis or, for more advanced students, as an assessment tool. I have provided scaffolded lessons with essential questions in order to better assist students new to the process of analysis.