

English II Lessons #6 – Mr. LaBatte

Reading Standards for Literature: Key Ideas and Details (2): Determine themes or central ideas of a text and analyze in detail their development over the course of the text.

Writing Standards: Text Types and Purposes 2: Write informative texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

Range of Writing 10: Write routinely over extended time frames for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences

DIRECTIONS: Review the article attached and complete the following tasks. A digital copy to type on is available upon request at jj.labatte@crooksville.k12.oh.us

- 1) Review the attached article (**paragraphs are in () and BOLD**)
- 2) Identify rhetorical devices and figurative language

Excerpt from “Remarks at the Presentation Ceremony for the Presidential Medal of Freedom” and Excerpt from the 1915 State of the Union Address

Excerpt from “Remarks at the Presentation Ceremony for the Presidential Medal of Freedom”

Ronald Reagan
January 19, 1989

And since this is the last speech that I will give as President, I think it's fitting to leave one final thought, an observation about a country which I love. It was stated best in a letter I received not long ago. A man wrote me and said: “You can go to live in France, but you cannot become a Frenchman. You can go to live in Germany or Turkey or Japan, but you cannot become a German, a Turk, or a Japanese. But anyone, from any corner of the Earth, can come to live in America and become an American.” **(1)**

Yes, the torch of Lady Liberty symbolizes our freedom and represents our heritage, the **compact** with our parents, our grandparents, and our ancestors. It is that lady who gives us our great and special place in the world. For it's the great life force of each generation of new Americans that guarantees that America's triumph shall continue unsurpassed into the next century and beyond. Other countries may seek to compete with us; but in one vital area, as a beacon of freedom and opportunity that draws the people of the world, no country on Earth comes close. **(2)**

This, I believe, is one of the most important sources of America's greatness. We lead the world because, unique among nations, we draw our people — our strength — from every country and every corner of the world. And by doing so we continuously renew and enrich our nation. While other countries cling to the stale past, here in America we breathe life into dreams. We create the future, and the world follows us into tomorrow. Thanks to each wave of new arrivals to this land of opportunity, we're a nation forever young, forever bursting with energy and new ideas, and always on the cutting edge, always leading the world to the next frontier. This quality is vital to our future as a nation. If we ever closed the door to new Americans, our leadership in the world would soon be lost. **(3)**

A number of years ago, an American student traveling in Europe took an East German ship across the Baltic Sea. One of the ship's crewmembers from East Germany, a man in his sixties, struck up a

conversation with the American student. After a while the student asked the man how he had learned such good English. And the man explained that he had once lived in America. (4)

He said that for over a year he had worked as a farmer in Oklahoma and California, that he had planted tomatoes and picked ripe melons. It was, the man said, the happiest time of his life. Well, the student, who had seen the awful conditions behind the **Iron Curtain**, blurted out the question, "Well, why did you ever leave?" "I had to," he said, "the war ended." The man had been in America as a German prisoner of war. (5)

Now, I don't tell this story to make the case for former **POWs**. Instead, I tell this story just to remind you of the magical, intoxicating power of America. We may sometimes forget it, but others do not. Even a man from a country at war with the United States, while held here as a prisoner, could fall in love with us. Those who become American citizens love this country even more. And that's why the Statue of Liberty lifts her lamp to welcome them to the golden door. (6)

It is bold men and women, yearning for freedom and opportunity, who leave their homelands and come to a new country to start their lives over. They believe in the American dream. And over and over, they make it come true for themselves, for their children, and for others. They give more than they receive. They labor and succeed. And often they are entrepreneurs. But their greatest contribution is more than economic, because they understand in a special way how glorious it is to be an American. They renew our pride and gratitude in the United States of America, the greatest, freest nation in the world — the last, best hope of man on Earth. (7)

Excerpt from the 1915 State of the Union Address

Woodrow Wilson
December 7, 1915

I am sorry to say that the gravest threats against our national peace and safety have been uttered within our own borders. There are citizens of the United States, I blush to admit, born under other flags but welcomed under our generous **naturalization laws** to the full freedom and opportunity of America, who have poured the poison of disloyalty into the very arteries of our national life; who have sought to bring the authority and good name of our Government into **contempt**, to destroy our industries wherever they thought it effective for their **vindictive** purposes to strike at them, and to **debase** our politics to the uses of foreign intrigue. Their number is not great as compared with the whole number of those sturdy hosts by which our nation has been enriched in recent generations out of **virile** foreign stock; but it is great enough to have brought deep disgrace upon us and to have made it necessary that we should promptly make use of processes of law by which we may be **purged** of their corrupt **distempers**. America never witnessed anything like this before. It never dreamed it possible that men sworn into its own citizenship, men drawn out of great free stocks such as supplied some of the best and strongest elements of that little, but how heroic, nation that in a high day of old staked its very life to free itself from every entanglement that had darkened the fortunes of the older nations and set up a new standard here, that men of such origins and such free choices of allegiance would ever turn in **malign** reaction against the Government and people who had welcomed and nurtured them and seek to make this proud country once more a **hotbed** of European passion. A little while ago such a thing would have seemed incredible. Because it was incredible we made no preparation for it. We would have been almost ashamed to prepare for it, as if we were suspicious of ourselves, our own comrades and

2.) Article _____ Paragraph _____

Note:

3.) Article _____ Paragraph _____

Note: