



Unit 1 Overview



Guiding Questions: What factors cause societal and individual change?

 Modules			
No.	Title	 Ideas	 Task
1	Rousseau’s “Social Contract” and our Class Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Society • Power • Individual 	Narrative/Sequential: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your social contract? • After reading an excerpt from Rousseau’s “Social Contract,” write your own contract that relates what you want from this class association and what you intend to contribute. Use at least one quote from the text.
2	What is True and Good? – “Allegory of the Cave”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge • Experience • Truth • Wisdom 	Informational/Explanatory/Analysis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does Plato’s “Allegory of the Cave” teach us about getting an education? • After reading Plato’s “Allegory of the Cave,” write a community newspaper article in which you analyze the allegory of the cave as an allegory for education, providing examples to clarify your analysis.
3	How to Regulate the Church: Martin Luther’s 95 Theses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individual • Institution • Religion 	Argumentation/Analysis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How is the 95 Theses like an argumentative essay? • After reading the 95 Theses, write a formal, public letter to teachers (not someone you know) that explains why the 95 Theses is important to read and write about. Identify Luther’s claim and explain how he supports that claim with details. Use at least two quotes from the text.
4	To Be or Not to Be: The Evolution of Hamlet’s Personality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Duty • Good and Evil • Judgment 	Informational/Explanatory/Comparison: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does Hamlet’s personality evolve during the course of the play? • After reading two of Hamlet’s soliloquies (Act III, Scene I and Act IV, Scene 4), write an essay in which you compare his state of mind early in the play to his state of mind late in the play. Support your discussion with evidence from the text.
5	Writing a Perfect Paper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perseverance • Structure • Written Language 	Argumentation/Evaluation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can I revise my best paper from this unit and produce a “perfect” composition? • After rereading the “Elementary Principles of Composition” (from <i>The Elements of Style</i>), write a concise summary of the problems with one of your first unit papers and propose the solution(s) for revising and editing your paper. Support your position with evidence from the text. (Then revise the paper to create your best piece of writing from this unit!)



Unit 1 Assessment



Assessment Task: What is Hamlet’s state of mind by the final act of the play? After reading his famous “Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him...” speech (Act V, Scene 1), write a fully developed paragraph in which you analyze Hamlet’s mental state at this point. Support your discussion with evidence from the text.



Hamlet

SCENE I. A churchyard.

Let me see.

Takes the skull

Alas, poor Yorick! I knew him, Horatio: a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy: he hath borne me on his back a thousand times; and now, how abhorred in my imagination it is! my

gorge rims at it. Here hung those lips that I have kissed I know not how oft. Where be your gibes now? your gambols? your songs? your flashes of merriment, that were wont to set the table on a roar? Not one now, to mock your own grinning? quite chap-fallen? Now get you to my lady’s chamber, and tell her, let her paint an inch thick, to this favour she must come; make her laugh at that.