

Home Connection**Grade 10 Unit 4: Virtue and Vengeance**

Dear Family,

In this unit, students will learn about forgiveness, considering situations in which people seek vengeance or offer amends. Students will read a variety of texts as they discuss the Essential Question for the unit.

ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

As a class, in small groups, and independently, students will work to answer the question *What motivates us to forgive?* Give your student the opportunity to continue the discussion at home.

TALK IT OVER WITH YOUR STUDENT

- What are some of the ways you could answer the question *What motivates us to forgive?*
- What do these selections suggest about forgiving? How do we know when it is better to forgive than seek revenge?
- Why do you think stories about revenge are so popular in the media and in books and film?
- What is the most interesting aspect of the ideas of forgiveness and vengeance that you learned from your reading?

PERFORMANCE TASKS AND PERFORMANCE-BASED ASSESSMENT

Your student will need to answer the question *Can justice and forgiveness go hand in hand?* He or she will write an argument and may give an oral presentation, drawing on knowledge gained from the selections in this unit, as well as from the Performance Tasks he or she completed.

STANDARDS

Here are some key standards students will work toward mastering in this unit.

Reading

- Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.
- Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it, and manipulate time create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.
- Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums, determining which details are emphasized in each account.
- Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and fallacious reasoning.

Writing

- Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
- Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question), or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

Speaking and Listening

- Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, identifying any fallacious reasoning or exaggerated or distorted evidence

Thank you for your continuing support!