

MRS. HALL'S

LESSON PLAN

TONI MORRISON QUOTE
ONE-PAGER

LESSON 1 | AUGUST

OBJECTIVE

Scholars will explain and sketch key ideas by creating a one-pager to a self-selected quote by Toni Morrison. (RI.9-10.2, RI.9-10.4)

MATERIALS

- One-Pager template (featuring Toni Morrison illustration)
- Quotes (copied on individual sheets of paper to be hung around room)
- Coloring tools (markers, colored pencils, crayons, etc.)
- Optional: Video of Toni Morrison (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xakd-Fevi_0)

MINI LESSON

Teacher will share with scholars the significance of the loss of Toni Morrison. Through her unapologetic writing and thoughtful interviews and speeches, Morrison advocated for and against many of the issues that plague America. Scholars to watch video (optional). Scholars will participate in a gallery walk exploring the quotes of Morrison hung around the classroom. They will choose one that peaks their interest to create their one-pager.

GUIDED INSTRUCTION & INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

Teacher will use a one-pager exemplar to guide scholars in how to complete their own template. After choosing their quote, the entire task will be completed based on it. They will paraphrase it, identify a key term within it, draw a symbol to represent it, identify what this quote shows them about the speaker, make a connection to it and choose an adjective that characterizes Morrison based on it. Teacher can show their completed exemplar or choose a quote and complete the template with the class. Allow scholars time to work independently on their one-pagers.

ASSESSMENT

Scholars will be assessed via a rubric on their understanding of the quote, including all required elements, design and color and making a meaningful connection.

QUOTE ANALYSIS

3

DEMONSTRATES A DEEP UNDERSTANDING OF THE QUOTE

2

DEMONSTRATES PARTIAL UNDERSTANDING OF THE QUOTE

1

DEMONSTRATES LIMITED OR NO UNDERSTANDING OF THE QUOTE

REQUIRED ELEMENTS

3

HAS ALL OF THE REQUIRED ELEMENTS

2

HAS HALF OF THE REQUIRED ELEMENTS

1

MISSING MORE THAN HALF OR HAS NONE OF THE REQUIRED ELEMENTS

DESIGN & COLOR

3

HAS A PAGE FILLED WITH DESIGNS AND COLOR

2

HALF OF THE PAGE IS FILLED WITH DESIGNS AND COLOR

1

VERY LITTLE OR NONE OF THE PAGE IS FILLED WITH DESIGNS AND COLOR

MEANINGFUL CONNECTION

3

MAKES A DEEP CONNECTION TO THE QUOTE AND EXPLAINS RATIONALE

2

MAKES A BASIC CONNECTION TO THE QUOTE WITH SOME EXPLANATION

1

MAKES AN UNCLEAR OR NO CONNECTION TO THE QUOTE WITH LIMITED OR NO EXPLANATION

SCORE

/12

TEACHER FEEDBACK

SCHOLAR:

DATE:

ONE-PAGER



TONI MORRISON QUOTE

SCHOLAR RESPONSE TO SCORE:

TONI MORRISON.



TONI MORRISON.

quote

term

paraphrase



symbol

speaker

connection

characteristic

TONI MORRISON.

“ This is precisely the time when artists go to work. There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. We speak, we write, we do language. That is how civilizations heal ”

heal

Art, an effective form of expression, is so important during times of conflict.



The speaker has a heart for empowering others, forcing them to see that they possess the talents & tools to make change.

I have used art to express

the healing process of overcoming abuse. I emphasize the importance of ending our own silence.

• UNDAUNTED •

**“We die. That
may be the
meaning of life.
But we do
language. That
may be the
measure of our
lives.”**

- Toni Morrison

1993 Nobel Lecture

“The theme you choose may change or simply elude you but being your own story means you can always choose the tone. It also means that you can invent the language to say who you are and what you mean.”

- Toni Morrison

2004 Wellesley College Commencement Address

“No one ever talks about the moment you found that you were white. Or the moment you found out you were black. That’s a profound revelation. The minute you find that out, something happens. You have to renegotiate everything.”

- Toni Morrison

1998 Salon Interview

**“Definitions
belong to the
definers, not
the defined.”**

- Toni Morrison

Beloved, 1987

“I can accept the labels because being a black woman writer is not a shallow place but a rich place to write from. It doesn’t limit my imagination; it expands it. It’s richer than being a white male writer because I know more and I’ve experienced more.”

- Toni Morrison

2003 New Yorker Interview

“I tell my students ‘When you get these jobs that you have been so brilliantly trained for, just remember that your real job is that if you are free, you need to free somebody else. If you have some power, then your job is to empower somebody else. This is not just a grab-bag candy game.’”

- Toni Morrison

2003 Oprah Magazine Interview

“This is precisely the time when artists go to work. There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity, no need for silence, no room for fear. We speak, we write, we do language. That is how civilizations heal.”

- Toni Morrison

2003 Oprah Magazine Interview

**“We die. That may
be the meaning of
life. But we do
language. That
may be the
measure of our
lives.”**

- Toni Morrison

[the meaning of life]

“The enemy is not men. The enemy is the concept of patriarchy, the concept of patriarchy as the way to run the world or do things.”

- Toni Morrison

[gender equality]

**“American means
white, and Africanist
people struggle to
make the term
applicable to
themselves with
ethnicity and hyphen
after hyphen after
hyphen.”**

- Toni Morrison

[African-American]

“Racism will disappear when it’s no longer profitable, and no longer psychologically useful. And when that happens, it’ll be gone. But at the moment, people make a lot of money off of it.”

- Toni Morrison

[an end to racism]

**“Love is divine
only and difficult
always. If you
think it is easy you
are a fool. If you
think it is natural
you are blind.”**

- Toni Morrison

[love isn't easy]

**“I feel totally
curious and alive
and in control.
And almost ...
magnificent, when
I write.”**

- Toni Morrison

[the power of writing]

“Make up a story. For our sake and yours forget your name in the street; tell us what the world has been to you in the dark places and in the light. Don’t tell us what to believe, what to fear. Show us belief’s wide skirt and the stitch that unravels fear’s caul.”

- Toni Morrison

[write your truth]

“What I think the political correctness debate is really about is the power to be able to define. The definers want the power to name. And the defined are now taking that power away from them.”

- Toni Morrison

[political correctness]

“There is no civilization that did not begin with art, whether it was drawing a line in the sand, painting a cave or dancing.”

- Toni Morrison

[art is all]

**“I know the world is
bruised and bleeding,
and though it is
important not to ignore
its pain, it is also critical
to refuse to succumb to
its malevolence. Like
failure, chaos contains
information that can
lead to knowledge – even
wisdom. Like art.”**

- Toni Morrison

[there is hope]

**“You wanna fly,
you got to give up
the stuff that
weighs you down.”**

- Toni Morrison

**“If there is a book
that you want to
read, but it hasn't
been written yet,
you must be the
one to write it.”**

- Toni Morrison

**“If you
surrendered to
the air, you
could ride it.”**

- Toni Morrison

**“Freeing
yourself was
one thing;
claiming
ownership of
that freed self
was another.”**

- Toni Morrison

**“Love is or it
ain't. Thin love
ain't love at all.”**

- Toni Morrison

**“As you enter
positions of
trust and
power, dream a
little before you
think.”**

- Toni Morrison

**“In this country
American
means white.
Everybody else
has to
hyphenate.”**

- Toni Morrison

**“At some point in
life the world’s
beauty becomes
enough. You don’t
need to
photograph, paint
or even remember
it. It is enough.”**

- Toni Morrison