

**Manchester College  
Education Department**

**Lesson Plan By:** Linsey Jenae Shannon

**Lesson Plan Title:** Examining themes in Chapter 7 of *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*

**Length of Lesson Plan:** 50 minutes

**Age or Grade Intended:** 7<sup>th</sup> Grade English/Language Arts

**Academic Standard:**

**ELA RL.7.2**

Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide an objective summary of the text.

**Objective:**

Given a specific passage, students will identify the theme in that passage with 85% accuracy according to answers discussed as a class.

**Assessment:**

Students will be given a handout to answer questions from presentation on. Students will turn this in, graded in full for all answers, but with particular attention to the identified theme (don't just mark wrong—correct and talk about later) as that is directly measuring the standard.

**Advanced Preparation:**

Prezi presentation

Handout for presentation

**Procedure:**

**Introduction/Motivation:**

1. Ask students if they can identify themes in the text so far. (Knowledge) (Intrapersonal)
2. Clarify that themes are not “main ideas.” Ask if anyone can state the difference. (Comprehension) (Intrapersonal)

**Step-by-Step Instructions:**

1. Explain to students the differences between main ideas and themes. Tell them themes develop from main ideas throughout the text, but that themes are statements about life or human nature, while main ideas are just the ideas that recur throughout the work.
2. Have students write down main ideas seen in the text so far, then ask (COLD CALL) for answers.
3. Begin examining themes in different passages following the framework below:
  - Read passage aloud to class.
  - Ask students to state the main idea of the passage (or several, so that they know which specifically you are referring to).
  - Ask questions as follows for each particular passage on Prezi (and written in personal copy of novel)—Have students write answers, then respond (give proper WAIT TIME). (Questions: Knowledge, Comprehension, Analysis, Evaluation) (Gardner's: Interpersonal, Intrapersonal, Verbal/Linguistic, Visual/Spatial)
  - The passages used will be the following:
    - Page 145—Family
    - Page 150—Land
    - Page 154—Respect/Friendship
    - Page 164—Race
    - Page 166—Race

**Closure:**

Have students answer final question: Which theme would you say is the most prevalent in the text at this point, and why? Have students write and share answers. (Evaluate) (Verbal/Linguistic, Intrapersonal, Interpersonal) Collect handouts. Remind students they need to finish Chapter 8 for the night's homework.

**Adaptations/Modifications:**

LD—Student should be given summary of chapter prior to class so that reading comprehension is reinforced. Student should be asked Knowledge level questions they can answer so that they are encouraged by ability to participate.

ADHD—Student should be given summary of chapter prior to class so that reading comprehension is reinforced. Student should be asked Knowledge level questions they can answer so that they are encouraged by ability to participate.

**Self-Reflection:**

Did students find it easier to participate when more time was given to write down their answers?

What behavior problems were encountered in this lesson?

If you were to do this lesson again, how would you change it?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use this sheet to answer questions that are listed on the Prezi throughout our discussion. For later reference (studying!), this exact Prezi can be found by searching “Examining Themes: Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry” at Prezi.com, and it will be under Ms. Shannon’s name.

Please answer in complete sentences (unless otherwise specified), fully explaining all answers (plenty of detail!).

Main Ideas so far...

Papa’s Arrival (145):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

The Land (151):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Stacey and Jeremy (154):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Papa and Mr. Jamison (164):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Uncle Hammer and Mr. Granger (166):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Which theme would you say is most prevalent at this point in the text, and why?