

12th ELA Student Present
Materials Interview

- Interviewer: Please describe the instructional materials that you're using for the lesson.
- Teacher: For the non-book, book report project, I had to make up my own lesson plan. There are so many out there already, other projects that are problem based learning, or cross-disciplinarian, but I couldn't find one that met what I wanted, so I made up the requirements for the different science standards, social studies, literature standards. They had a list of novels, that AP literature approved. They were required to submit a formal proposal that entailed ... Identified which standards that they wanted to be graded on, the nature of their project / presentation, the social activism / awareness part, technology, and submit that in a formal proposal. I left the word formal proposal out ... As professionally as possible.
- Interviewer: Why did you choose these materials?
- Teacher: The AP Lit exam requires that the kids read a wide ... Deeply and widely across a variety of genres and styles. By allowing them to choose their first novel of choice ... We do one every term. Last term we covered a lot of the summer reading novels together. That's part of it, and again, trying to experiment with enlightening the kids and myself as far as which standards we're aiming at to have evidence of literacy or of learning.
- [00:02:00]
- Interviewer: What is it that you like about these materials?
- Teacher: I thought that my handout was pretty clear, but apparently not. Some of the students ... This is an assignment I even gave to my 12th grade expository writing kids, and I held them to the same standards. Even at the AP Literature level, the students were like "How many standards do we have to have again? What form do ... How do we get these science parts related to our novel? Do you have any examples?" I'm like, no, this is my first time I'm trying it. I actually don't have suggestions and I don't know what your particular strengths are. Are you an artist? Are you a research [fidial 00:02:53]? Graphic artist? They're like "Oh." I think that was interesting to give.
- Interviewer: What do you think? Should we ... Anything else that you like about he materials?
- Teacher: I don't know, I don't think for right now I'd make any changes. I like the openness, open nature of the project and I like having those disciplines ... Having those standards.
- Interviewer: These questions, I probably need to rewrite these questions when I ask them they always seem very ... Are there any changes that you would make to the material?

Teacher: No.

[00:04:00]

Interviewer: How would you describe these materials as meaningful or relevant to student's lives?

Teacher: I think its interesting that they would then ... It's part of the novel that they were, for instance, the one student that read "A Tale of Two Cities" and how he focused more on making a mockumentary. The delivering of the information as being a relevant skill, entertaining and giving information at the same time. Where I think in past generations or past assessments it would have just been, "Did you read the book?", "Can you draw a poster?", or something that identifies the themes. I think it's a lot more multidimensional assessments, which I think is kind of interesting to see the students delve into that area.