

FREE

**BACK TO
SCHOOL**

RESOURCES

**FOR
SECONDARY
ELA
TEACHERS!**



HEY, BOOK LOVERS!



SAMANTHA IN *Secondary*

100 YOUNG ADULT NOVELS TO ADD TO YOUR CURRICULUM OR CLASSROOM LIBRARY

HISTORICAL FICTION

1. *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr: "A story about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II." Beautiful, haunting, and unforgettable.
2. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak: "It is 1939, Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement."
3. *Out of the Easy* by Ruta Sepetys: "It's 1950, and as the French Quarter of New Orleans simmers with secrets, seventeen-year-old Jose Morane is silently striving to be the daughter of a brothel prostitute. Jose wants more out of life than the Big Easy has to offer. She devises a plan to get out, but a mysterious death in the Quarter leaves Jose tangled in an investigation that will challenge her allegiance to her mother, her conscience, and Willie Woodley, the teenage medicine man on Canal Street." **Note:** Sepetys is a prolific and talented author of many historical fiction offerings including *Fountains of Silence*, *Salt to the Sea*, and more. Anything penned by Sepetys is sure to be a hit with your historical fiction loving students.)
4. *We Are Not Free* by Traci Chee: "This novel is the collective account of a tight-knit group of young Nisei, second-generation Japanese American citizens, whose lives are irrevocably changed by the mass U.S. incarcerations of World War II."
5. *The Dollmaker* by Stacy Lee: "By day, seventeen-year-old Jo Kuan works as a lady's maid for the cruel daughter of one of the wealthiest men in Atlanta. But by night, Jo moonlights as the revolutionary author of a newspaper advice column for the genteel Southern lady, "Dear Miss Sweeney." When her column becomes wildly popular, she uses the power of the pen to address some of society's ills, but she's not prepared for the backlash that follows when her column challenges fixed ideas about race and gender."
6. *Flygirl* by Sherri L. Smith: "All Ida Mae Jones wants to do is fly. Her daddy was a pilot, and years after his death she feels closest to him when she's in the air. But as a young black woman in 1940s Louisiana, she knows the sky is off limits to her, until America enters World War II, and the Army forms the WASP—Women Airforce Service Pilots. Ida has a chance to fulfill her dream if she's willing to use her light skin to pass as a white girl. She wants to fly more than anything, but Ida soon learns that denying one's self and family is a heavy burden, and ultimately it's not what you do but who you are that's most important."
7. *Burn Baby Burn* by Med Medina: "Med Medina transports readers to a time when New York seemed balanced on a knife-edge, with tempers and tensions running high: the infernal summer of 1937, when the city is beset by arson, a massive blackout, and a serial killer named Son of Sam who shoots young women on the streets. Seventeen-year-old Nora Lopez's family life isn't going so well, either. Before she turns eighteen and can strike out on her own, Nora will discover that the greatest dangers are often closer than we like to admit — and the hardest to accept."
8. *13 Doorways, Wolves Behind Them All* by Laura Ruby: "The unforgettable story of two young women—one living, one dead—dealing with loss, desire, and the fragility of the American dream during WWII."
9. *Ground Zero* by Alan Gratz: "Master storyteller Alan Gratz (*Refugees*) delivers a pulse-pounding and unforgettable take on history and people, revenge and fear — and the stunning links between the past and present." **Note:** Gratz is often listed as a middle grades author although I argue that his novels capture anyone young and old alike. I'd be remiss if I didn't include one of his titles on this list. Any of his work would be an excellent addition to your classroom!
10. *The Lovely War* by Julie Berry: "A critically acclaimed, multi-layered romance set in the perilous days of World Wars I and II, where gods hold the fates—and the hearts—of four mortals in their hands."

SAMANTHA *in* SECONDARY

HI THERE!

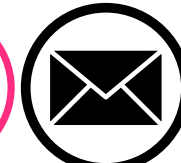
MY NAME IS SAMANTHA AND I'M THE TEACHER BEHIND THE BLOG **SAMANTHA IN SECONDARY**. I LOVE TO CHAT BOOKS AND YOU CAN FIND TONS OF GREAT YA BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS (ALONG WITH ENGAGING WAYS TO USE THEM IN YOUR CLASSROOM) BY FOLLOWING ME ON **INSTAGRAM** OR BY SIGNING UP FOR THE LIST OF MY FAVORITE YA NOVELS **HERE**. CAN'T WAIT TO CHAT BOOKS WITH YOU!

♥ Samantha

CLICK **HERE** TO GET MY FREE LIST OF 100 OF MY FAVORITE YA NOVELS! PERFECT TO HELP YOU FIND THE BEST BOOKS FOR YOUR CLASSROOM LIBRARY!

Let's connect!

SAMANTHA *in* SECONDARY

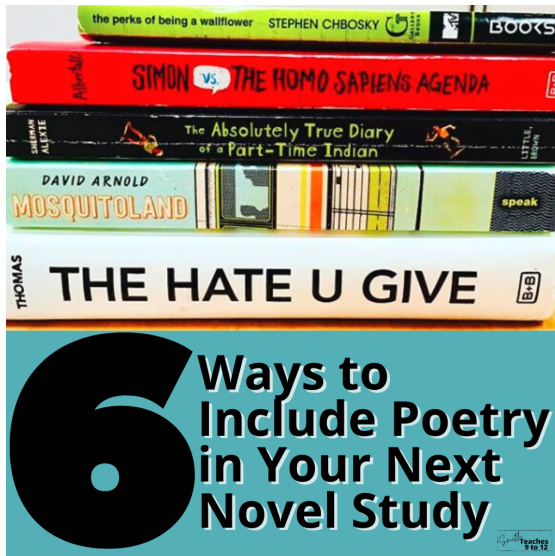


RESOURCES FOR GRADE 9 TO 12 ENGLISH & ELA



Hi! I'm Lesa and I'm a high school English teacher with 15 years experience. I use pop culture, tech, and rigorous reading and writing strategies to ensure students think creatively and critically about all kinds of texts and the world beyond them too. At the heart of it all is a desire for students to be curious and to follow that curiosity even if it's down a rabbit hole on wikipedia!

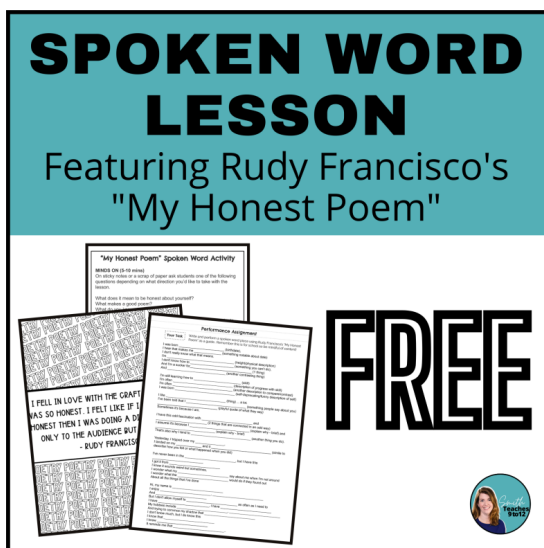
READ THIS POST



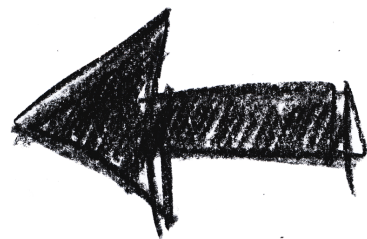
GET YOUR FREE E-BOOK



GET YOUR FREE BIES



Check out this update on a "Where I'm From" poem.



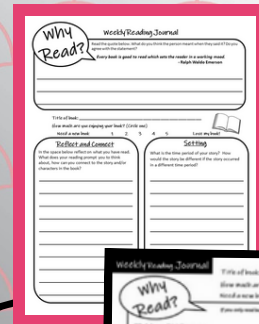
LET'S CONNECT!
CLICK -->



READ WRITE REFLECT

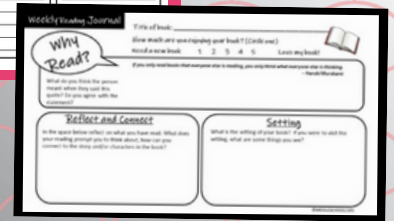
Weekly Reading Journals

Weekly Reading Journals are intended to **engage** students in **deeper conversations** about books and reading that go beyond simply asking students to record the number of pages read. Students will **ponder** on what others have to say about reading, **reflect** on their own reading and **apply** literary questions to their choice books or class reading.



A printable form titled 'Weekly Reading Journal'. It includes a 'Why Read?' section with a speech bubble icon, a 'Reflect and Connect' section with a grid for 'I've read...', 'I've read...', and 'I've read...', and a 'Setting' section with a grid for 'What is the setting of your book?'. There are also checkboxes for 'How much are you enjoying your book?' and 'How many pages have you read?'.

Print
and
Digital



A digital version of the 'Weekly Reading Journal' form, showing the same layout as the printable version but with a more modern, rounded design and a larger font size.

[Click here!](#)



**More ideas on
the blog!**



Let's Connect



**Join the FREE
Facebook Group Here**

Hello! I'm Carolyn, I'm a middle school ELA and SS teacher. I love sharing strategies and creating resources to help teachers implement Reader's Workshop in their secondary classroom. I



believe that all students are readers once they find their Just Right Book!



**ELA and Social Studies
resources**



VIRTUAL RECORD SHOP

slides



MOCHAS
& markbooks



Hi! I'm Katie from Mochas and Markbooks! I am a secondary English teacher at an Indigenous high school, TPT Teacher-Author, education blogger, digital creator, and Teacher Instagrammer. I strive to provide quality resources both in content and design that value creativity, inclusivity, integrity, and growth.

READ THE

blog

CONNECT ON

instagram

TPT

store

These Virtual Record Shop slides have been curated to reflect various themes centered on social issues and learning about different perspectives. Each "record" is linked to the music video for that song. These slides work great for bell-ringer activities, projects, writing prompts and more!



CLICK HERE TO GET THE VIRTUAL RECORD SHOP SLIDES FOR FREE!

Let's connect!



WHO IS IN YOUR LIBRARY?

Every child deserves to see themselves represented in your classroom library and in your curriculum. So, put your books to the test with this **IDENTITY WHEEL!**



@whimsyandrigo



To read how Krista analyzes her books, head to her blog by clicking the image above for a step-by-step tutorial and grab your free identity wheel.

3 GIFTS FOR YOU

Click on each freebie to learn more!



144
TEACHING
IDEAS FOR
7TH GRADE
ELA



AUTHOR'S TONE MINI-LESSON

BOOK REC
FORTUNE TELLER



HI! I'M OLIVIA GOLD FROM
DISTINGUISHED ENGLISH.

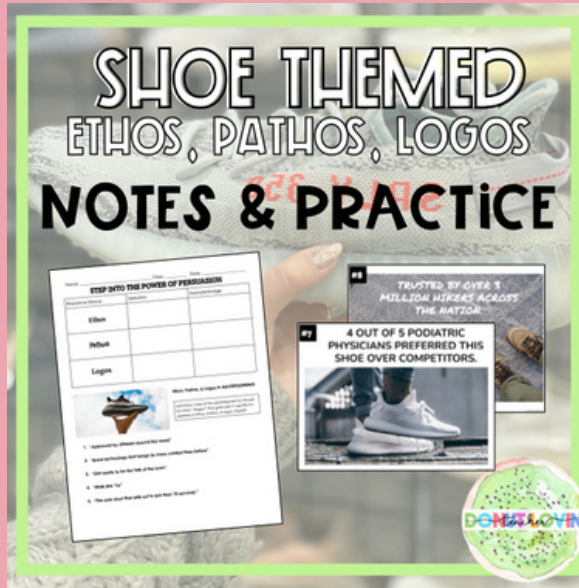
I teach middle-school ELA to 90 rambunctious pre-teens, and I blog about my favorite teaching ideas at distinguishedenglishteacher.com.

Besides teaching, I'm best known for my pet mini cow and our not-so-leisurely walks through our suburban neighborhood.

Connect with me here:



CHECK OUT THESE FREEBIES!

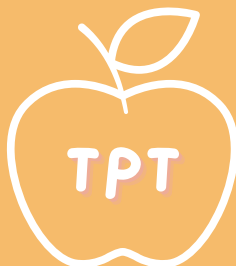


HELLO!

I'm Staci, a middle school ELA and history teacher.

I've taught 5th-8th grades over the past eleven years and love chatting about books, taking moments to breathe, and exploring my family history.

Come chat with me on Instagram!



LET'S CONNECT!

FREE POETRY CHOICE BOARD



Hey there! I'm Molly, AKA The Littlest Teacher. I absolutely love sharing simple and doable solutions for your ELA classroom. Check out my [blog](#) for ideas, inspiration, and encouragement along your teaching journey.

This no-prep digital poetry activity choice board offers your students 5 different and creative ways to analyze a poem they've read. Detailed directions for students and suggested grading rubrics are included.

[Click here](#) to get it for free!



Let's be friends!



YADDY'S ROOM



BOOKS WITH LATINX PROTAGONISTS FOR YOUR CLASSROOM LIBRARY



I am a Hispanic American, and love to share my culture with my students and have my students represented in the books they read. So I made this list when I was updating my classroom library.

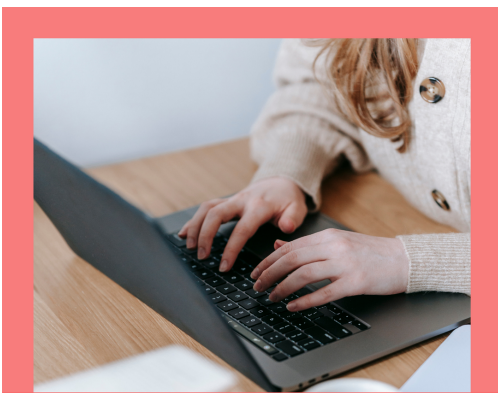


Hello! I am Dr. Yadennis "Yaddy" Walantas. I have been teaching English and developing curriculum since 2018. I have a passion for creating grab and go ELA lessons for teachers that don't sacrifice rigor and that are scaffolded for students.

SYLLABUS FULLY EDITABLE



Let's face it, sometimes you need an abbreviated version of a syllabus that kids can refer to quickly. In this fully editable Canva template, you can make your own syllabus!



PARENT EMAIL Templates

No more dreading parent emails. Use my email templates if you are struggling with communicating with parents and want to start off right for the new school year.

SEND ME
A MESSAGE!

