

Elementary School English Enrichment (Grade.4) – 5 Weeks - John Ziegler

Class Schedule

Summer session I; Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, (3pm - 4:50pm); on Zoom; Total: 30 hours.

Fees: \$360

Course Description

The course is designed as both a reading as well as an analytical writing course, in which students build both skills and confidence while enjoying timeless and exciting tales. We will use the novels *Esperanza Rising*, by Pam Munoz Ryan, and *From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler*, by E.L. Konigsburg, as our anchor texts with which to explore major story elements and figurative language. Students will practice writing in a variety of styles using aspects of point of view and narration, setting, character, and plot development.

Week 1: Predictions and Indicators

As we dive into the first few chapters of *Esperanza Rising*, students will identify examples of foreshadowing from within the text and write predictions of what will happen. Students will also engage in writing reflections of how they see themselves in the main character.

Week 2: Narrator and Point of View

As we move into the second half of the book, students will write short descriptions of the main character and how she has evolved. Students will write these using both 1st person and again in 3rd person to understand how this can widely change narration as well as tone and temperament.

Week 3: Setting

This week we begin reading *From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. E. Frankweiler*. Students will write descriptive passages about the setting using evidence from the text. Additionally, students will be asked to explore usage of figurative language within the text.

Week 4: Evolution Through Plot Development

This week we map out plot development in stages and identify themes that begin to emerge. Students will write about these themes in a reflective diary/letter format, and how they view them in real life.

Week 5: Final Analysis

In the final week, students will work on an editorial review of the book. They will be encouraged to highlight which story elements they liked most, or perhaps what they feel could have been strengthened.

About John Ziegler

John Ziegler has been teaching at Ray Chinese School for two years and has taught a wide number of English classes to grades two through eight. Additionally, he teaches a World Affairs course and has taught Speech and SAT Prep. Mr. Ziegler also works at a human rights organization where he teaches Citizenship and English to refugees and asylum seekers. Prior to his work in Chicago, Mr. Ziegler taught Middle School English, High School Economics, And Algebra II for six years in various schools and programs in Thailand.