

# Gale In Context: High School

## Literary Award Nomination Speech Lesson Plan

**GRADE LEVEL:** 9-12

**SUBJECT/CONTENT:** English/Research and Presentation

**SUMMARY OF LESSON:** Each student will research an influential American author. The student will design an award for that author, and will write and present a speech in which he or she nominates the author for the award.

**FOCUS QUESTION:** What award does your chosen author deserve? Why?

**RESOURCE:** *Gale In Context: High School*

**LEARNING EXPECTATION:** Students will use their research skills to find appropriate sources for a presentation on an influential American author. They will use their writing skills and creativity to write a speech to nominate the author for an award they created.

**TIME FRAME:** 2-3 class periods

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### PROCEDURES:

#### Steps/Activities by the Teacher:

- Instruct students to choose an author they are interested in or admire. They might focus on contemporary authors, authors of a particular genre, or authors meeting some other criteria correlated to the curriculum.
- Direct students to use *Gale In Context: High School* to research the author. Have students focus their research on the author's biography to identify significant accomplishments or milestones in the author's career or life.
- Instruct students to use this information to create an award for the author. Examples include "Most Satirical Author of the 20th Century," "Author Most Read by Teenagers," "Author Appearing in the Greatest Number of Reading Lists," and so on. Encourage students to be creative in the design of this award.
- Instruct students to write and present a speech nominating the author for the award. Students will be assessed on the following:
  - Introduction of author, including background information, major accomplishments and/or contributions
  - Title and explanation of the student's award, if necessary
  - Three specific reasons the author is being nominated
  - Conclusion and summary of the author and award
  - Quality of research, logic/reasoning, organization
  - Presenter's enthusiasm, tone, and knowledge of author
  - Presentation time (2-3 minutes)

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### Steps/Activities by Student(s):

- Select an author to research.
- Access *Gale In Context: High School* to research your author. Focus on specific accomplishments or milestones in the author's career or life.
- Determine the most significant accomplishment or milestone, and create an award related to this accomplishment/milestone. Be creative!
- Continue your research to support your nomination of the author for the award. Use the **Highlights and Notes** tool take notes during your research in *Gale In Context: High School*.
- Save your research. Use the **Send to...** tool in *Gale In Context: High School* to **Email** or add documents to your **Google Drive** or **OneDrive** accounts, or **Print** or **Download** all of your information.
- You will need to turn in a Works Cited or Bibliography. Use the **Cite** tool on each document in *Gale In Context: High School* to cite your sources.
- Write and present a speech nominating your author for the award.
- You will be assessed on the following:
  - Introduction of author, including background information, major accomplishments and/or contributions
  - Title and explanation of the award, if necessary
  - Three specific reasons the author is being nominated
  - Conclusion and summary of the author and award
  - Quality of research, logic/reasoning, organization
  - Enthusiasm, tone, knowledge of author
  - Presentation time (2-3 minutes)
- Turn in your Nomination Speech and Works Cited or Bibliography.

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**OUTCOME:** Students will practice basic research and reasoning skills in identifying and learning about an influential author. Students will write and present a speech based on the research performed.

### RELATED ACTIVITIES:

#### English

Have students write an acceptance speech from the point of view of the author.

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