

# Sample Lesson



### BANG!

This slide show presents students with the grim reality of violence and its effect on individuals, our communities, and those who are left behind.

Raw Write in ID Journals.



### UNDERTAKER

—a poem by Patricia Smith

Students will participate in a shared reading of this persona poem, told through the narrative voice of an undertaker preparing the body of a victim of gang violence.

Raw Write in ID Journals.

THEME: violence

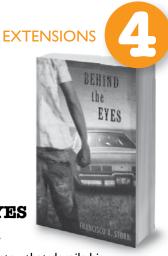
LESSON #9 ESSENTIAL QUESTION:

Is violence the solution—or the problem?



After Raw Writing in response to the slide show and anthology selection, students will have three options for further writing.

- WRITE A PERSONA POEM
- INVESTIGATE LEGAL LANGUAGE: COMPARISON CHART
- REFINE RAW WRITING



### **BEHIND THE EYES**

—a novel by Francisco X. Stork

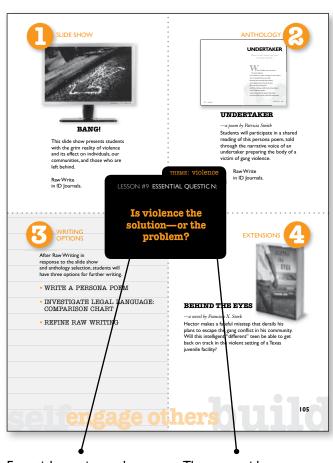
Hector makes a fateful misstep that derails his plans to escape the gang conflict in his community. Will this intelligent, "different" teen be able to get back on track in the violent setting of a Texas juvenile facility?



Each lesson in ID voice: vision: identity centers on a theme-based essential question that is aligned with one of the four foundational learning platforms. By incorporating these platform into each lesson, student are guided to independence and competence through a process of engagement with each other and with literacy. The sample lesson presented here will help you frame I of I6 inquiries, each centered on a theme-based essential question and aligned with one of the four foundational learning platforms. As you become more at ease with the ID format, you will be increasingly able to incorporate the conceptual layers of the program into each lesson, guiding students to independence and competence through a process of engagement with each other and with literacy.

A lesson map on the opening page of each lesson gives a snapshot of the arc of each inquiry. There are four basic stages to each lesson, following Dr. Tatum's teaching path from tutorial through reading, writing, and extension activities.

- 1. Each lesson opens with a Slide Show that addresses the essential question—an emotionally and intellectually challenging kick-off for the broader inquiry, which plunges students into real-world issues. The Slide Show also gives rise to the first Raw Write in response to what is seen and discussed.
- 2. The Slide Show is followed by a short, substantive, thematically linked selection from the ID Anthology, to be read aloud to the whole group. Each selection serves as a mentor text for the inquiry.
- **3.** Students now go deeper into writing after self-selecting one of three writing options: writing that is related to the ID Anthology selection, writing based on research into the Slide Show topic, or writing to refine an earlier piece.
- 4. The final phase of each lesson extends the inquiry by connecting to other, longer literature—focusing on the trade books.



Essential question grabs students' attention and sets up the dialogue about a specific social justice issue.

Theme provides a means of framing the discussion, the readings, and the writing for each lesson.



## Each lesson opens with a slide show that addresses the essential question



Students—and the teacher—are encouraged to capture their reactions to the slide show through Raw Writing in their ID Journals.

Additional information and tips are provided in orange. Teacher as Writer includes specific suggestions for enriching the collective writing experience.

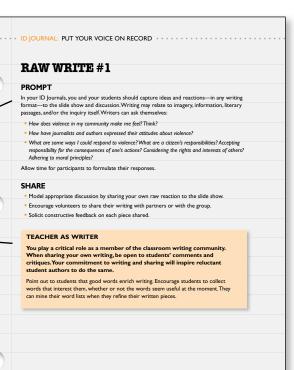
NOTE: The slide show presents an unflinching view of its topic; content may include disturbing imagery. You may wish to preview it before sharing with the class.

- Slide show illuminates the theme and social justice issue for each inquiry. It also introduces the essential question and demands an emotional response—all while making students smarter about important, relevant topics.
- Slide show notes are offered as optional support. You may wish to let students experience each slide without additional commentary. In that case you can use the notes for questions or for revisiting the slide show.



Slide shows can be found in the Teacher Support folder of the ID Teacher Resource CD-ROM.

Scripted think-aloud and talking points are provided for teachers who might need additional support with discussions, especially about sensitive or emotionally charged topics.





### The slide show is followed by a short selection from the ID Anthology

THOLOGY: READ WRITING THAT MATTERS . . . . . UNDERTAKER

### UNDERTAKER

### **READ ALOUD**

three characters—the undertaker himself, the deceased young man, and the young man's mother. Turn to page 114 in the ID Anthology and read the selection aloud. (This selection contains mature content that you may wish to preview before reading aloud to students.)

Point out that in "Undertaker," a persona narrates the poem. A persona can embody the situation or perspective of the poet, or that of a created character. To create her poetic personas, Patricia Smith draws from real-world events and her own politics. She tries to give voice to those whose voices are seldom heard.

Prompt students to share their thinking about the persona poem. Invite students to find details and language that contribute to the power and appeal of the poem.

- Which part of the poem is most meaningful to you? Why?
- Smith uses ordinary words in extraordinary ways. What are some words or phrases that particularly caught your attention? (Writer's Craft: Word Choice)

Encourage students to discuss the poem using their established assessment language.

### REVISIT ANTHOLOGY

To Analyze Vocabulary: Call attention to Smith's pointed use of words—tuxedoed (p. 116), impending (p. 117), lizard-lidded, swagger (p. 119).

What other words could Smith have chosen to say the same thing? Are the words she chose more effective? Explain.

Remind students to use their ID Journals to collect words, take notes on reading, and

To Deepen Comprehension: Share the short piece on page 123. In just seven lines, "Untitled" delivers a vivid scenario and a bare-bones message using a few distinct but very direct images. Ask students to think about how this short piece speaks to and broadens the topic of violence in our communities.

engage others

Students and teacher respond to the anthology reading through a second Raw Write.

Mini-lesson highlights one of six important aspects of writer's craft, exemplified by the ID Anthology selection.

- Each inquiry features a selection from the ID Anthology. These powerful, contemporary readings motivate students and engage them as writers. Selections serve as mentor texts for students' own writing.
- Revisit suggestions place focus on vocabulary enrichment and paired ID Anthology selection. The paired selection can often be viewed as one writer's reflection on the main selection.

ID JOURNAL: PUT YOUR VOICE ON RECORD · · · · ·

### RAW WRITE #2

Allow time for you and your students to respond to the persona poem in your ID Journals. Encourage students to refer to specific passages that most affected them, or to jot down quotes in which the use of language struck them as particularly powerful.

Remind students to keep a narrow focus by not trying to cover too many ideas. Encourage students to pay particular attention to using words and phrases that will bring their writing

If appropriate, to jump-start the interaction, share a piece of writing that you have been working on. When ready, invite students to share and evaluate their own or another person's writing.

### WRITER'S CRAFT MINI-LESSON: WORD CHOICE

A writer must create memorable mental images for the reader. One way to do this is to use words that paint a vivid picture in the reader's mind.

### Memorable writers:

- choose words that are accurate and specific.
- choose verbs and adjectives that are vibrant and purposeful.

On page 115 of "Undertaker," Smith describes the snapshot as "crinkled" and goes on to refer to the "plastic bag of boy" in the storeroom. Ask students what is conveyed by these words—the humble means of the mother, the matter-of-fact sterility of the body in the morgue.

Invite students to point out phrases or words in this poem that grabbed them most (or least).

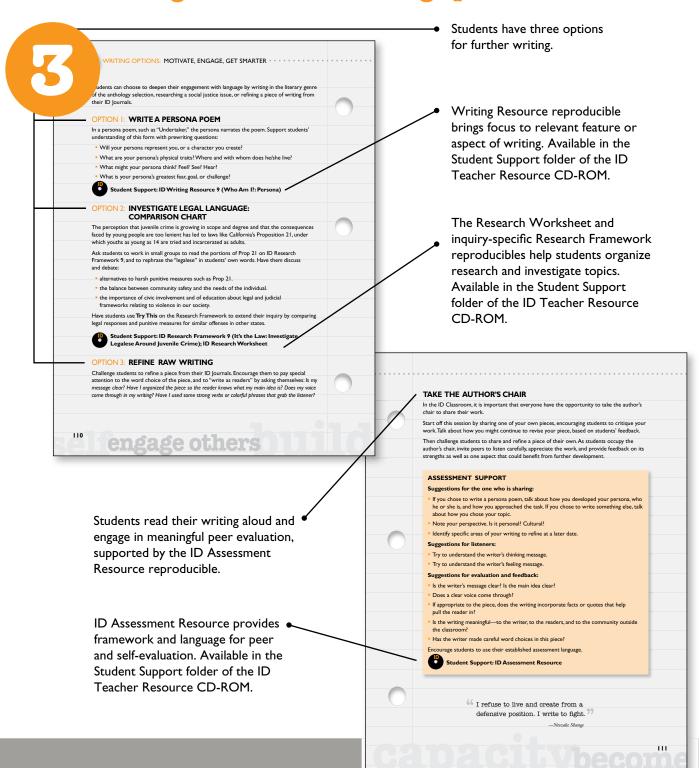
Ask:
What are some specific words that moved you or helped you create powerful mental images?

If necessary, model this process by pointing out "the high price of miracles," "his halo set at a cocky angle" (p. 116), and "creating a chin with a brushstroke" (p. 117)

Whecome

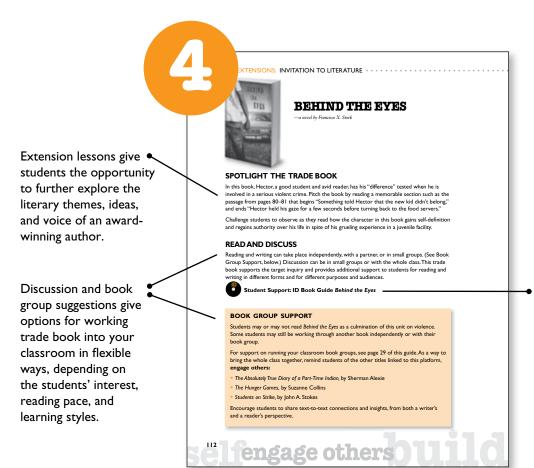


## Students now go deeper into writing after self-selecting one of three writing options





The final phase of each lesson extends the inquiry by connecting to other, longer literature – focusing on one trade book



Book Guide reproducibles include framework for reading, analyzing, and responding to the trade books. Available in the Student Support folder of the ID Teacher Resource CD-ROM.

We, the authors, will seek
to use language to define who we are,
build and nurture resilient beings,
write for the benefit
of others and ourselves,
and use language
prudently and unapologetically
to mark our time
and mark our lives.

This we agree to, with a steadfast commitment to the ideals of justice, compassion, and a better humanity for all.

To this end, we write!

To this end, I write!

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