

Standards/Objectives

RL.11-12.2 Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of a text...; provide an objective summary of the text.

RL.11-12.9 Demonstrate knowledge of eighteenth-, nineteenth-, and early twentieth-century foundational works of American literature, including how two or more texts from the same period treat similar themes or topics.

Objectives: - Analyze the structure and effectiveness of arguments in transcendentalist essays studied.

****This assignment is Evidence #1 for the Unit 3 Essays Quiz.****

Excerpts from *Self-Reliance* by Ralph Waldo Emerson

1. ****Please attach your SMILES graphic organizer to these questions before handing in this assignment!**** (Similes, Metaphors, Imagery, **Locate the Main Idea**, Effects of the Poet's Voice {Mood & Tone}, Summary)
2. **Lines 26-29.** What is implied by Emerson's use of the word "sacred" in these lines? Why does he believe that one should follow his or her nature?
3. **Lines 35-38.** What does Emerson say is easy to do? What does he say a great person should be able to do?
4. **Lines 39-42.** What does Emerson say is one consequence of being a nonconformist?
5. **Line 61.** Emerson says, "To be great is to be misunderstood." What do you think he means by that?
6. Tell whether you agree with each of these quotations from "Self-Reliance," and explain why or why not.
 - (a) "Envy is ignorance...imitation is suicide."
 - (b) "Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind."
 - (c) "What I must do is all that concerns me, not what the people think."
7. What characteristics of Transcendentalism do you see in this essay? ****Support your ideas with at least one example (quote, page number) from the text.****

