

**CAWS Teacher Exchange—Cullman Electric Cooperative**  
**Cantrice Voce**  
**12<sup>th</sup> Grade English Language Arts**

Date: April/May

Lesson Length: 5 weeks

Topics: Satire (Swift's "The Modest Proposal")/Major problems facing society today/research/expository-narrative writing/memo writing/presentation/interviewing

**Overview:** Students will read Swift's "The Modest Proposal," which is a satire on how society was trying to fix some of the time's problems. It makes of mockery of the people of the time and the leadership in England. After reading students and teacher will discuss the reading, Swift's approach to opening people's eyes (presentation), and problems our society currently faces. Students will then in groups research, create a working plan portfolio, present their portfolio to their class, and then individually go through an interview process pertaining solely to his or her plan.

**Part I:** Read Jonathan Swift's "The Modest Proposal" and discuss in class—discuss serious issues facing our society and students' generation.

**Part II:** In groups of four, choose an issue to research and problem solve to create a plan/policy to correct the problem. Students must in detail (within their group in writing) explain the issue, how many people are affected by the problem, and what the group is planning to do to correct the problem.

**Part III:** Research what steps one must take to put plan into action or if plan is feasible. Students must cite CREDIBLE sources for information.

**Part IV:** Create a realistic, feasible working plan portfolio (with all parts included within it). It must also include a cover sheet, table of contents, personal narrative telling why the group chose this issue to pursue, a detailed budget for seeing this plan through, the plan in workable stages with time frames, the man power needed with contacts, and an explanation of how and why this plan will work.

**Part V:** Presentation to an audience (could be classroom, entire grade, school, administrators, etc.) Everyone must present a piece of the plan to the audience with professional grade visuals (powerpoint, graphics, etc.).

**Part VI:** Individual interviews about the plan/policy (ensures student participation in all aspects of the plan and knowledge of the plan as well as interview skills).

**Background/Preparation:** Teacher should have some issues in mind to use as examples but not for the class to choose from (we want the students to think about the problems themselves). The teacher should make a rubric for each part of the project to ensure the students know what is expected of them and how they will be graded. Be sure to write a letter to the parents on the project because participation EACH day is required; therefore, if a student must miss for an unexcused absence, they will be given a zero for that day's work. NO MAKEUP! The teacher should model a presentation and do a lesson on interviewing previous to the students doing their presentations and interviews. Also, it would be better to have a speaker from the CAWS program to give tips on presentations and interviews.

**Primary Learning Objectives/Outcomes:**

Students will contemplate issues facing their society and generation.

Students will problem solve through researching and writing.

Students will work as a team to create a professional quality plan.

Students will create and deliver their group plan to an audience.

Students will answer questions about their plans in an individual interview.

**Essential Questions:**

What are the problems facing us today?  
How can I make a difference?  
How do I create a credible, usable plan?  
What makes for a good presentation or interview

**Materials, Equipment, and Technology Resources**

Textbook  
Speaker (for presentation and interviewing)  
Supplemental materials  
Internet  
Computers

**Procedures, Activities, and Learning Experiences**

Individual Work  
Class Discussions  
Visuals  
Group Work  
Project  
Speaker

**Assessment Strategies:**

Teacher Observation  
Portfolio  
Class Work  
Performance  
Feedback from Discussion

**Lesson Instruction Includes:**

Project-Based Learning  
Employability Skills  
Presentation  
Problem Solving Skills  
Higher Order Reasoning  
Work Ethics  
Management Skills