

Never Again: Recognizing Pre-Genocidal Stages in Literature and Our World Today

Content Area: Secondary English

Course: English 10 Honors

Grade: 10th grade

Lesson #2: Learning about the Rwandan Genocide

Time: About two hours (lesson will span several class periods)

Overview of the Lesson: While students take notes, the teacher goes through the Google Slide presentation educating the student about the Rwandan Genocide of 1994. The lesson begins with the history of Rwanda, moves into the 1994 Genocide, and then ends with examples of people making a difference in 2017 in Rwanda.

State Standard:

RI.9-10.7 - Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums, determining which details are emphasized in each account.

Essential Questions:

- Why do we study our past?
- How can learning about the past prevent us from repeating past mistakes?
- Why do we sometimes oppress others when we gain power?
- How can one person make a difference?

Anticipated Student Preconceptions/Misconceptions:

Many students have not studied the Rwandan Genocide or any other examples of genocide. Therefore, they may not know what it is to begin with; therefore, these lessons must take nothing for granted. Students must begin at the beginning by defining genocide before researching past example of genocide.

Instructional Materials Needed:

- AirPlay or a way to project the Google Slides
- Students need paper and pen

Instructional Tips:

Allow students to ask questions during the presentation. Some may already have knowledge about the Rwandan Genocide. If the teacher doesn't personally know the answer, assign a specific student to look up the answer to the question; everyone gets a little more information and that student will be contributing to the lesson as well.

Anticipatory Set: Explain to students that many of these pictures are from my own personal experiences in Rwanda as part of a Fulbright-Hayes Grant.

Instructional Strategies: Direct Instruction

Lesson Closing: End with Theogene's wise words, "We need to love one another."

Extension Ideas: Students may want to share about their own experiences on a mission trip. Students may also want to further research one of two aspects of Rwanda, something they wanted to learn more about.