

Rwandan Youth Resiliency in Face of Trauma

ELA Classroom Setting

Grades 9-10

Unit Objective:

In this unit, students will analyze the impact of traumatic events on young adult survivors of the Rwandan genocide. Students will demonstrate an understanding of the impact of historical events leading up to the genocide, events during the genocide, and the recovery process of the Rwandan people and country.

Lesson 1:

Resiliency in the Face of Trauma

Students will examine the impact of trauma on the brain, and brainstorm ways that resiliency helps when coping with trauma.

Lesson 2:

History of the Rwandan Genocide

Students will identify causes of the genocide through the study of historical events leading up to the genocide.

Lesson 3:

Community Involvement Post Genocide

Students will read about community programs focused on helping Rwandan survivors, particularly youth after the genocide.

Lesson 4:

Survivor Testimony and Trauma

Students will analyze the impact of trauma on survivor testimony.

Lesson 5:

Rwanda Today and Tomorrow

Students will evaluate the progress of the Rwandese today and analyze the reconciliation process for the country and its people.

Lesson 6:

Two Voice Poems of Empowerment

Students will construct a two-voice poem encouraging empowerment and resiliency in young adults across a multitude of cultures and experiences.

