

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks

Objectives:

- Participate in community-wide event
- Begin to learn and practice research skills of paraphrasing, summarizing, and quoting
- Be introduced to MLA citing and works cited
- Read critically
- Write a freshman-level summary/response essay

Process:

1. Introduce project to students
2. Show CBS Morning video
 - a. Quick T/F comprehension check
 - b. Quick discussion
3. Introduce paraphrasing (separate handout)
 - a. Work with excerpts from video:
 - i. By the late 1940s scientists were on the brink of a golden age of medicine, Jonas Salk was racing to develop the polio vaccine, but his work - and that of countless others - was hampered because they lacked a critical tool: human cells for testing. (Model and do together as class)
 - ii. To this day, "HeLa" cells - named by combining the first two letters of "Henrietta" and "Lacks" - are a cornerstone of modern medicine.
4. Review summarizing (Chapters 15 and 18 in WW); and introduce Summary/Response essay and topic.
5. Critically read the Prologue
 - a. Worksheet (points):
 - i. Main ideas
 - ii. Vocabulary
 - iii. Comprehension
 - iv. Discussion
6. Turn in summary paragraph with citing (points)
7. Assign excerpts to be paraphrased and evaluated in groups (points)
8. Go over Works Cited page and explain elements
 - a. Will be copied EXACTLY for essay
9. Submit essay, including 1-2 quotes from video and/or Prologue
 - a. Body Paragraphs (must choose 2! Can do 3):
 - i. Is this a book you'd like to read? Why or why not?
 - ii. Predict medical issues fifty years from now. What might be possible ethical concerns?
 - iii. Based on what you've read and heard, what could be done for the Lacks' family now?
 - b. Submit to inter-campus essay contest???