

EMERSON AND THE TRANSCENDENTALISTS

Students will learn about the Transcendental movement and the philosophical and religious influences that formed it as well as its key figures including Ralph Waldo Emerson and other writers. Students will read Emerson's "Self-Reliance" and experience the text by exploring new vocabulary, engaging in reading discussions, and writing an expository essay.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Students will leave the class with an understanding of what Transcendentalism is, the influences that helped to form the movement, and the key figures in the literary movement. Students will also understand that Transcendentalism is made up five essential precepts: Individualism/Self-Reliance, Over-Soul, Voluntary Simplicity, Nature, and Civil Disobedience. In addition, students will develop their analytical writing skills through written discussion assignments and an expository essay. Lastly, students will expand their vocabulary through content exposure and directed vocabulary assignments.

REQUIRED STUDENT RESOURCES

The essay "Self-Reliance" will be provided as a PDF online. However, a student can also purchase a paperback version if that is preferable. The student will also need a Main Lesson book for their vocabulary, reading notes, discussions, artwork, and writing assignments.

COURSE SCHEDULE/OUTLINE/CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Week	Topic	Assignment
1	What is Transcendentalism? History/Influences & Precepts	PowerPoint (Lesson 1): Lecture/Note-taking
2	Ralph Waldo Emerson & other Transcendentalists of the Movement	PowerPoint (Lesson 2): Lecture/Note-taking
3	The Tenets of Transcendentalism	Assignment 1 PowerPoint (Lesson 3): Lecture/Note- taking & journal
4	"Self-Reliance" p. 1-3	Assignment 2 a) Text analysis discussion: Select 1 from Transcendental Note-taking Worksheet (TNW) & journal b) Vocab
5	"Self-Reliance" p. 4-6	Assignment 3 Text analysis discussion: Select 1 from TNW & journal

6	"Self-Reliance" p. 7- 9	Assignment 4 a) Text analysis discussion: Select 1 from TNW & journal b) Vocab
7	"Self-Reliance" p. 10-13	Assignment 5 a) Text analysis discussion: Select 1 from TNW & journal
8	"Self-Reliance" themed essay topics	Assignment 6 The Expository Essay #1
9	Transcendental Poetry	Assignment 7 Text/Poetry analysis discussion: Select 1 from TNW & journal for each poem.
10	Transcendental Music	Assignment 8 The Expository Essay #2
11	Transcendental Inspired Art	Assignment 9 Art project
12	Modern Day Transcendentalist?	Assignment 10 PowerPoint Presentation