

2015 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY CALENDAR LESSON PLAN

Month/Honoree(s): Brig. Gen. Calvin H. Elam

Lesson Title: Breaking Barriers in the Sky

Grade Level/Course: 9-10

Subject: ELA

SC Academic Standards and Skills Addressed:

http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/190/documents/CCSSI_ELASStandards.pdf

CCSS Writing Standards

1. Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

a. Introduce precise claim(s), distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and create an organization that establishes clear relationships among claim(s), counterclaims, reasons, and evidence.

b. Develop claim(s) and counterclaims fairly, supplying evidence for each while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both in a manner that anticipates the audience's knowledge level and concerns.

c. Use words, phrases, and clauses to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships between claim(s) and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claim(s) and counterclaims.

d. Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.

e. Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.

4. Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

5. Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grades 9–10 on page 54.)

6. Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology's capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically

7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects to answer a question (including a self-generated question) or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate;

synthesize multiple sources on the subject, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

9. Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

b. Apply grades 9–10 Reading standards to literary nonfiction (e.g., “Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and fallacious reasoning”).

10. Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

CCSS Speaking and Listening Standards

4. Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow the line of reasoning and the organization, development, substance, and style are appropriate to purpose, audience, and task.

5. Make strategic use of digital media (e.g., textual, graphical, audio, visual, and interactive elements) in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.

Introductory Statement/Lesson Overview: In this lesson, students will use the Internet and other available resources to research and evaluate evidence to support a claim as to whether or not the honoree should be included in the 2015 African American history calendar. Students will present an argument in writing and orally. They will also create a digital summary using Wordle or Tagxedo.

Goals/Lesson Objectives:

- Students will use a RAFT to write an argumentative essay to support or refute Brig. Gen. Calvin H. Elam’s inclusion in the 2015 South Carolina African American history calendar.
- Students will present findings orally using supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically such that listeners can follow.
- Create a Wordle or Tagxedo digital word cloud to summarize findings.

Instructional Materials:

1. Computer/Internet access for research and publishing
2. Paper, pencil, pen
3. Flash drive
4. Copy of the 2015 African American Calendar
5. Persuasive Speeches: using logical appeal

<https://www.boundless.com/communications/textbooks/boundless-communications-textbook/methods-of-persuasive-speaking-15/logical-appeals-78/logical-appeals-78-powerpoint-templates/>

Lesson Progression and Time Frame:

The lesson should take 3 to 5 days; it will vary depending on class time and scheduling.

Activity 1: Create a RAFT

Students should use the Internet or other resources to research Brig. Gen. Calvin H. Elam career and accomplishments

Students should research the requirements and selection process of calendar honorees

Students should establish a claim that supports or refutes his inclusion in the 2015 calendar

Students will create an argumentative essay using a RAFT

- RAFT: Role – lawyer, Audience – Supreme Court, Format – appeal speech, Topic – Brig. Gen. Calvin H. Elam’s inclusion.

Activity 2: Oral presentation

Arrange the classroom to simulate the Supreme Court

Students may take turns being the judges

Students should dress up for their speeches

Students should deliver their appeal speech to the court

Activity 3: Create a Wordle or Tagxedo

Use the links below to create a digital word cloud from the appeal speech

<http://www.wordle.net/>

<http://www.tagxedo.com/>

Extensions/Differentiation

The appeal speech may be written as a traditional argumentative essay.

A timeline may be created to show accomplishments.

Assessment:

<http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php>

Additional Resources:

<http://www.169fw.ang.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123332412>

<http://scliving.coop/sc-life/sc-stories/a-commanding-presence/>

<http://claflin.edu/claflin-news/2013/01/16/claflin-trustee-calvin-h.-elam-becomes-first-african-american-general-in-the-s.c.-air-national-guard>

http://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess120_2013-2014/bills/336.htm

http://capitolwords.org/date/2014/01/27/E119_tribute-to-brigadier-general-calvin-h-elam/

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