

7th grade literature - end of the unit - whole task scored - all standards of AIW - Yes, I want to change.  
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This is my unit on "A Christmas Carol". Last year I did this right before Christmas in about eight days. We basically read the play and "performed" it for our class. It felt shallow and pointless, so I have been working on rewriting the unit. I have new plans to construct knowledge in place, but I haven't yet taught these plans. So - what you will be working with is my new plans for the unit, but I will have you evaluate my old assessment which was a holiday toast to Ebenezer and one that each student had to give at a family holiday gathering about him/herself.

My biggest need for help is how to wrap this all up in an authentic and engaging assessment that shows synthesis of both the big idea and all of the Core expectations that come with reading a drama.

Some things I'm considering:

Catie is working on a play unit in which the kids are writing a personal play.

I do have a Core standard in which students have to view an actual movie or play and compare/contrast it to the original work.

How do I tie this all together in one authentic assessment that might even be **high on value beyond school**?

Big Idea/Student Inquiry/Core

#### **Unit 4 Clashing Values**

##### **Part One - "A Christmas Carol" Do I have to change?**

**Big Ideas:** What happens if my personal values clash with my society's values? Do I need to change? How does this impact my world? What if I choose not to care?- "Christmas Carol"

##### **Driving to Next Big Idea:**

Does my society need to change? Are people willing to suffer and die for their values? Does there come a "point of no return"? Is this a "decided heart"?

Boy Who Dared

**Student Inquiry/Assumptions (from last year):** Why should I change for my society? How do I fit in if my values don't line up? Who really cares? What if I choose to do nothing? Does the real-life struggle have anything to do with internal conflict? Is this how I find my "decided heart"? Does the supernatural have anything to do with the changes? Does everyone's life have baggage? What do we do with it? Do we all have to deal with our past, live in the present, and look to the future? Do these lessons build our lives? Does a forgiving spirit keeps "chains" out of our lives? What do other people know about us that we don't know about ourselves? - Fred's house Can reality scare us straight? What about Ebenezer's legacy? The dash on his tombstone? What will others say about me when I am gone? What about the incredible change in the lives around Scrooge's? Is this an example of the Butterfly Effect? Ripples?

##### **Essential Skill Questions: (content)**

What is internal conflict? (mastery) Is this a real-life condition?

What is drama? ie: elements of drama: stage directions, plot, character, and dialogue

How do I read drama? strategies: read silently first, study stage directions, get to know the characters, keep track of the plot, read aloud with others, and visualize

How do stage directions help me visualize and infer character motives?

What is comedy and tragedy? Can they be used in the same play?

How does "old language" affect my reading comprehension?

Is there any reason to read a "classic"?

##### **Core Standards:**

RL.7.1 - cite text evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

RL. 7.2 - determine a theme or central idea and analyze its development over the course of the text; provide a summary of the text.

RL 7.3 - analyze how the elements of a drama interact with the text

IA.1 - reading strategies (visualizing)

IA.2 - read on level text, both silently and orally, at an appropriate rate with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension

##### **Levels of Understanding:**

7th grade literature  
"A Christmas Carol" Final Project

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

### A Holiday Toast to You and Yours

At some time over the holiday break, you will most likely share a large meal with your family and relatives. Your assignment is to write and share a toast with your family about yourself and an area of your life that you are hoping to change.