



Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Lori Dohe

SCHOOL: Walla Walla High School

Position: English teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 21 years (25 total)

Q. Why is it important for students in your AP Literature class to read slowly?

A. Close reading is a skill students learn in my class. They lose the idea good reading is fast reading. They can't go home and read something quickly and go back to class thinking they are prepared.

This class helps students learn it's more important to read slowly and take time to note the nuances of words. They really need to pour over their work.

Q. Why is it important for you to allow adequate time for discussion?

A. Discussion is probably the main learning tool I use. We'll have a discussion after reading a story or poem. I try to help them recognize the main points the author was intending to make.

The students need a chance to mull things over and express themselves in their own words. I often have them write their thoughts before we have the discussion.

Q. What skills will they need to be successful on this spring's AP Literature exam?

A. The emphasis is on literature as opposed to the other English AP test which is a focus on language and developing an argument. Our primary activity in the AP Literature test is to read closely and look for the details and imagery of the passage. They need to figure out what the author really wants to say and then find interesting elements to write about.

Q. How do we typically perform on the AP Literature exam?

A. Usually 85 percent of the students who take the test pass it. The national average is 60 percent.

Over →

MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
LORI'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM LORI...

In many ways I think we are becoming more academically inclined at Wa-Hi. The ACT test is a good example. I think once we learn more about standardized grading, it too will be positive. I also like the trend toward national core standards.

I feel teachers and students have been working really hard to produce valuable work in our classrooms. We educate "all" students in our public schools.



If you ask our teachers, I think they would tell you kids come class and are learning. We have demonstrative proof of this learning. I believe our teachers truly care about their teaching.