



Teaching Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy* (2014): Focus Chapter 10

Description

This teaching material was designed for teaching Bryan Stevenson's *Just Mercy* – Chapter 10 “Mitigation” in the EFL classroom. The package includes two lessons, multiple worksheets with a solution key, and a *Conceptboard* that can be used in class.

Main target group / level

Grade / year 10-13
(Einführungsphase, Qualifikationsphase)

Unterrichtsziele (Learning Goals)

Einheit: Die Schüler*innen können verschiedene Formen von Diskriminierung nennen, erklären und sie im Kontext des US-amerikanischen Rechtssystems verorten.

1. Stunde: Indem die Schüler*innen den Beginn des 10. Kapitels lesen, können sie ‘deinstitutionalization’ erläutern und diese im Kontext des US-amerikanischen Rechtssystems verorten.

2. Stunde: Indem die Schüler*innen die Inhalte des 10. Kapitels zusammenfassen und über *Ethics of Life Writing* und *Ethics of Readership* diskutieren, entwickeln sie eine reflektierte Haltung gegenüber den ethischen Überlegungen bezüglich des Genres *Life Writing*.

Why is it important for TEFL?

African American literature is central to teaching EFL and is currently the Korridorthema “African Americans Free at Last? Equal at Last?” in Schleswig-Holstein. Stevenson's memoir (non-fictional text; genre: (autobiographical) life writing / narrative) offers the reader a bigger picture of being black in a country with a judicial system that systematically disadvantages non-white people. Many chapters also touch on the concept of intersectionality.

Main competence(s)

- Speaking
- Writing
- Intercultural Communicative Competence

Learning contexts

Expected prior knowledge

- Prior knowledge about racism and discrimination is needed.

Possible contexts of use

- Fachanforderungen SH: “Regional Identities”: “Democracy in Action”, “Power and Corruption” (MSB-SH, 2014:51)
- Fachanforderungen SH: “The Individual and Society” (MSB-SH, 2014:51)
- Korridorthema: “African Americans: Free at last? Equal at last?”

Materials / tools / resources

- Chapter 10 of the book *Just Mercy*
- Annotations for chapter 10
- Worksheets
- Digital tool: *Conceptboard*
- Tasks and instructions were partly adapted from: Grieser-Kindel, Christin, Roswitha Henseler & Stefan Möller. 2016. *Method Guide 2. Methoden für den Englischunterricht. Klasse 5-13*. Braunschweig: Bildungshaus Schulbuchverlage Westermann Schroedel Diesterweg Schöningh Winklers GmbH.

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Notes:

Students should be made aware of the sensitive topics in the chapter such as (systemic) racism, police brutality, and power abuse before reading and discussing the chapter.