

Teaching Example:

Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption (Bryan Stevenson)



Based on: Chapter 10: "Mitigation" (pp. 186-202)*

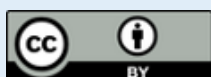
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Plot Summary of the Chapter:

The focus of chapter 10 is on the incarceration rates in the US related to mental illness. It starts by looking at the institutionalized treatment of mentally ill people in the past. After contextualizing the situation of mentally ill people in the US, Stevenson introduces two cases of mentally ill men who were convicted and given the death penalty for crimes they committed while being in distress. However, the chapter is also about racism, childhood trauma, forgiveness, and mitigation. Even though several emotional and sensitive topics are discussed, the chapter ends on a positive and uplifting note.

Overview of Lesson Design:

Phase / Teaching Activity / Impulse	Material
Activity 1: Recapitulation of the chapter and review of the key aspects. Word cards are used for scaffolding, annotations on the back of the cards provide additional language support. The students organize the cards and summarize the chapter. Also, they prepare to be able to explain the respective terms in the context of the chapter.	Word cards
Activity 2: Impulse questions are given to the students to discuss ethics of life writing and ethics of readership. The students discuss the questions in groups and note down their results on the Conceptboard.	Concept-board with impulse questions
Consolidation phase 1 and 2: The students create a mind map on the Conceptboard to save their impressions. The mind map contains important aspects of regarding ethics of life writing and ethics of readership.	Concept-board
Target Competence(s): <i>Funktionale kommunikative Kompetenz (Sprechen)</i>	



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*Based on: Stevenson, Bryan. 2020. "Chapter Ten: Mitigation", in: *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. London: Scribe Publications, pp. 186-202.