

# Pathways to Literature

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*Literature adds to reality, it does not simply describe it. It enriches the necessary competencies that daily life requires and provides; and in this respect, it irrigates the deserts that our lives have already become.*

*C. S. Lewis (1898-1963),  
Irish novelist & poet*



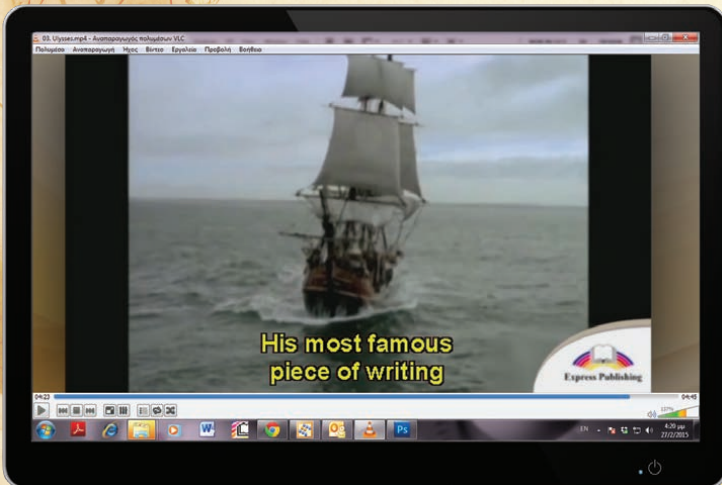
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# An innovative course for learners of English at B2+/C1 level that aims to develop the English Language through literature

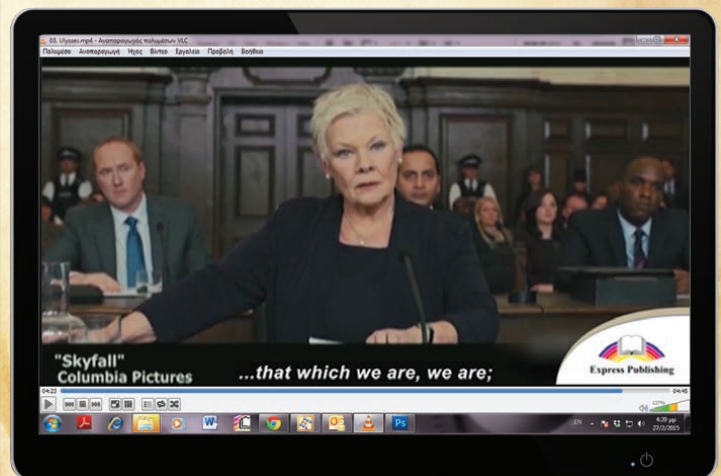
Based on Differentiated Instruction: A multi-sensory approach offers stress-free learning and creates a positive attitude towards the learning experience. It caters for learners' individual learning styles.



Amazing videos with subtitles in English enhance students' knowledge of the literary work, help teachers exploit literature through multiple pathways and boost learners' emotional intelligence.



Screenshot from *Moby Dick*



Screenshot from *Ulysses*

*"Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will.  
To strive, to seek, to find, and not yield."  
Ulysses, Alfred, Lord Tennyson*

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# Moby Dick

Author's biography

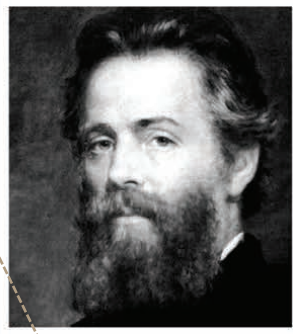
## Objectives

By the end of this unit, you will:

- know about the author and the background information behind the novel
- thoroughly understand the passage from the novel
- be able to identify figurative language in the passage
- be able to summarize the passage
- be able to analyze the title, characters, setting, symbols, and themes of the novel
- know about foils in some depth
- be able to use the passage to support your opinions and write a literature essay



## Learn About ... Herman Melville



**H**erman Melville (1819-1891) was an American author. He was born in New York City and lived there for most of his childhood. When he finished school, he decided to get work at sea. Over the next few years, Melville worked on various ships and wrote about his experiences. These travel accounts sold fairly well. Encouraged by this, Melville set to writing what he considered to be his masterpiece: *Moby Dick*. Unfortunately, it sold extremely poorly. Critics hated it and Melville became less and less popular. Indeed, he struggled financially for most of his life. When he died in 1891, he was not considered by anyone to be a major name in

American literature. This all changed, however, in the 1920s. People rediscovered his writing, including *Moby Dick*. Now, he is one of the most important figures in American literature, and *Moby Dick* is widely considered to be his masterpiece.

## Predict

### Step 1

Discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 Why can the desire for revenge be so strong?
- 2 Can revenge ever be a healthy action? Why or why not?

### Step 2

Look at the key words from the passage from *Moby Dick*. With a partner, discuss the meaning of the words. Based on the words, predict the mood of the passage.



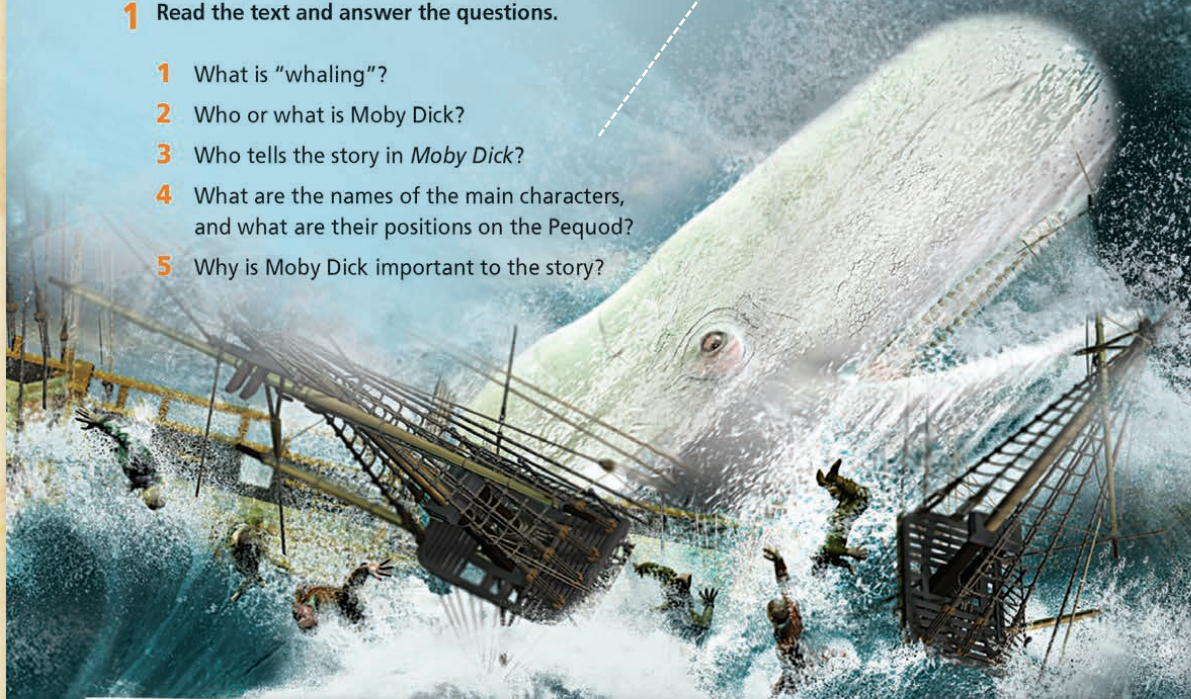
Background information sections provide students with an introduction to the literary work.



## Background Information

1 Read the text and answer the questions.

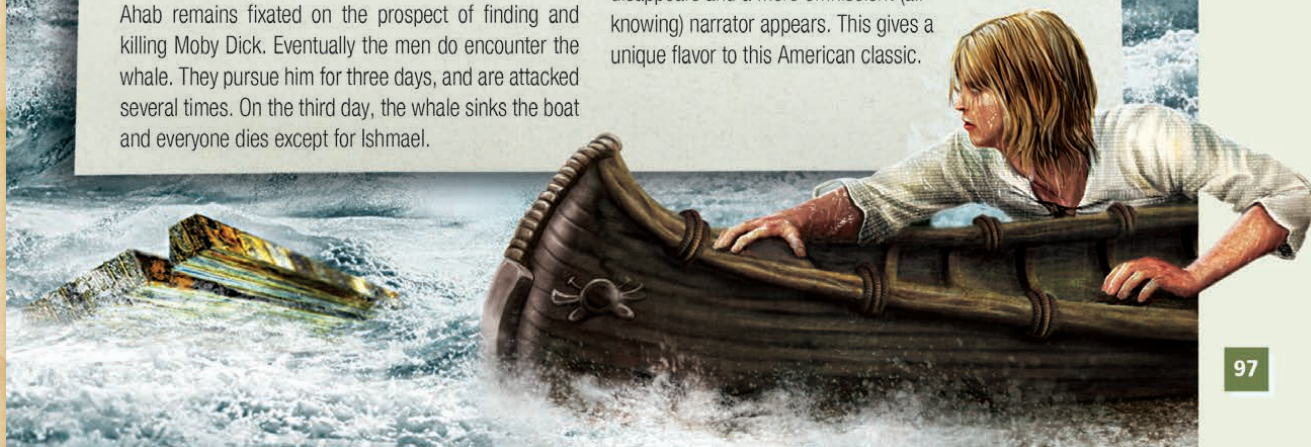
- 1 What is “whaling”?
- 2 Who or what is Moby Dick?
- 3 Who tells the story in *Moby Dick*?
- 4 What are the names of the main characters, and what are their positions on the Pequod?
- 5 Why is Moby Dick important to the story?



**M**oby Dick takes place sometime in the late 1830s or early 1840s (no exact year is given in the text) and tells the story of a whaling ship, the Pequod. In the past, large ships went out to hunt whales. The people sold the whales for their blubber, or fat, their meat, and, in the case of sperm whales, a substance called spermaceti. This liquid was important for making perfume, among other things. Whaling was a dangerous but exciting job. The narrator of *Moby Dick* is a young man called Ishmael. He comes aboard the ship looking for work and an adventure. What he doesn't realize is that the ship's captain, Ahab, is unhealthily obsessed with a white whale called Moby Dick. Although the whalers catch whales throughout their trip, Ahab remains fixated on the prospect of finding and killing Moby Dick. Eventually the men do encounter the whale. They pursue him for three days, and are attacked several times. On the third day, the whale sinks the boat and everyone dies except for Ishmael.

Throughout the book, Ishmael meets many other interesting characters aboard the ship. His best friend is Queequeg, a harpooner from somewhere in the South Seas. Ishmael distrusts him at first because of his strange appearance and religious customs. The men soon become close friends, however. Other crew members include Starbuck, the thoughtful chief mate, who is alone in opposing the captain's strange quest for revenge; Stubb, the always-cheerful second mate; and Flask, the third mate, who believes that nothing is sacred.


Ishmael tells the story from his point of view for most of the novel. At times, however, his narrative voice disappears and a more omniscient (all-knowing) narrator appears. This gives a unique flavor to this American classic.



Listen & Read activities encourage the in-depth analysis of an extract.

6

## Listen & Read

- 2  Listen to and read the passage from *Moby Dick*. First, read for general understanding. Then, reread the passage. As you read the second time, note down what the characters say about Moby Dick.



*In this passage, from Chapter 36, Captain Ahab has just told the men on the ship that he will give a piece of gold to the first person to spot Moby Dick, the white whale.*

"Captain Ahab," said Starbuck, who, with Stubb and Flask, had thus far been eyeing his superior with increasing surprise, but at last seemed struck with a thought which somewhat explained all the wonder. "Captain Ahab, I have heard of Moby Dick—but it was not Moby Dick that took off thy leg?"

"Who told thee that?" cried Ahab; then pausing, "Aye, Starbuck; aye, my hearties all round; it was Moby Dick that dismayed me; Moby Dick that brought me to this dead stump I stand on now. Aye, aye," he shouted with a terrific, loud, animal sob, like that of a heart-stricken moose; "Aye, aye! it was that accursed white whale that razed me; made a poor pegging lubber of me for ever and a day!" Then tossing both arms, with measureless imprecations he shouted out: "Aye, aye! and I'll chase him round Good Hope, and round the Horn, and round the Norway Maelstrom, and round perdition's flames before I give him up. And this is what ye have shipped for, men! to chase that white whale on both sides of land, and over all sides of earth, till he spouts black blood and rolls fin out. What say ye, men, will ye splice hands on it, now? I think ye do look brave."

"Aye, aye!" shouted the harpooners and seamen, running closer to the excited old man: "A sharp eye for the white whale; a sharp lance for Moby Dick!"

"God bless ye," he seemed to half sob and half shout. "God bless ye, men. Steward! go draw the great measure of grog. But what's this long face about, Mr. Starbuck; wilt thou not chase the white whale? art not game for Moby Dick?"

"I am game for his crooked jaw, and for the jaws of Death too, Captain Ahab, if it fairly comes in the way of the business we follow; but I came here to hunt whales, not my commander's vengeance. How many barrels will thy vengeance yield thee even if thou gettest it, Captain Ahab? it will not fetch thee much in our Nantucket market."

"Nantucket market! Hoot! But come closer, Starbuck; thou requirest a little lower layer. If money's to be the measurer, man, and the accountants have computed their great counting-house the globe, by girdling it with guineas, one to every three parts of an inch; then, let me tell thee, that my vengeance will fetch a great premium HERE!"

"He smites his chest," whispered Stubb, "what's that for? methinks it rings most vast, but hollow."

"Vengeance on a dumb brute!" cried Starbuck, "that simply smote thee from blindest instinct! Madness! To be enraged with a dumb thing, Captain Ahab, seems blasphemous."



## Respond

- 3** Respond to the passage by answering these questions with a partner.
- 1 Was your prediction about the mood of the passage correct? Explain.
  - 2 How did the author create the mood? Think about the words of the characters.
  - 3 Who are the important people in this passage?
  - 4 How do you think Captain Ahab feels in the passage?

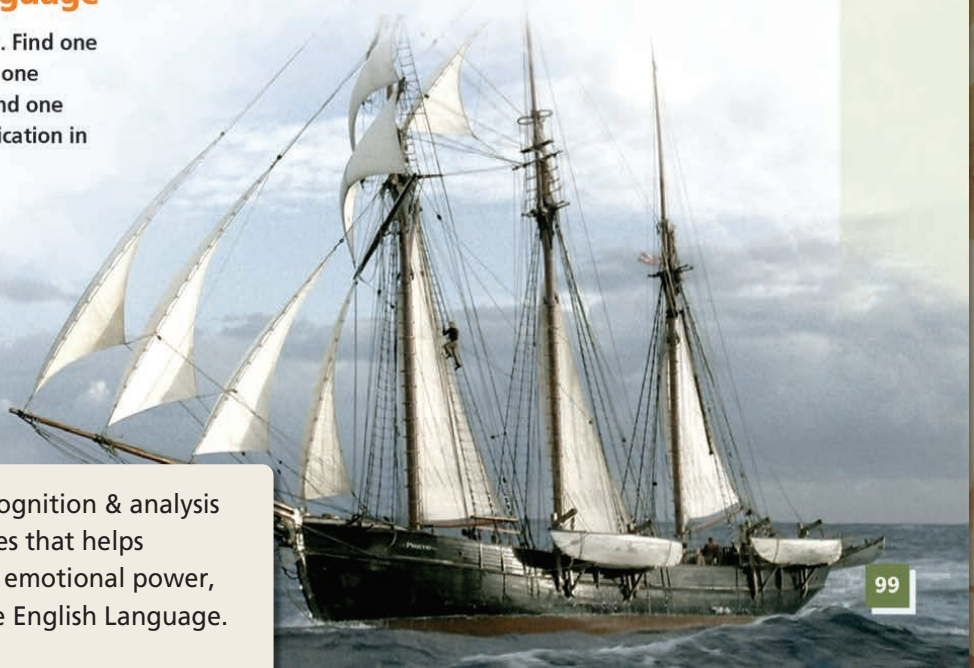
## Understand

- 4** Read the questions and choose the correct answers.
- 1 Which of the following places does Ahab NOT say he'll go to find Moby Dick?
    - a Good Hope
    - b the Horn
    - c perdition
    - d Nantucket
  - 2 Who does not give Ahab total support?
    - a Stubb
    - b the harpooners
    - c the narrator
    - d Starbuck
  - 3 Why does Ahab want to kill Moby Dick?
    - a because the whale is worth a lot of money
    - b because he lost his leg to the whale
    - c because the whale is very rare
    - d because there is a prize for catching the whale
  - 4 What does Ahab ask the steward to bring the men?
    - a a large meal
    - b a golden coin
    - c a round of drinks
    - d new, sharp weapons

## Figurative Language

- 5** Work with a partner. Find one example of a simile, one example of a pun, and one example of personification in the passage.

Special emphasis on recognition & analysis of various literary devices that helps students appreciate the emotional power, beauty & breadth of the English Language.





## Summarize

6 First, fill in the graphic organizer based on the passage you read.

<i>Character(s)</i> _____ _____ _____ _____	<i>Setting</i> _____ _____ _____ _____
<i>Main Event(s)</i> _____ _____ _____ _____	<i>Conflict</i> _____ _____ _____ _____

7 Now, use your graphic organizer to summarize the passage with a partner.

## Listen

8  Listen to a lecture about *Moby Dick*. Then, answer the questions.

- 1 What is the speaker mostly talking about?
  - a why Ishmael is a biased narrator
  - b why Melville shouldn't have picked the narrator he did
  - c why it's important to discuss narrators
  - d why Ishmael was a good choice for narrator
- 2 How does the speaker organize her lecture?
  - a by presenting two opposing opinions
  - b by making a claim and supporting it
  - c by refuting a common misconception
  - d by explaining an author's reasoning

University-style  
tutorials & lectures



'Analyze' sections enhance students' thinking skills.



## Analyze the Title

### 9 Find It.

Moby Dick is obviously important to the novel. In the passage, the reader learns a little bit about the whale. Go through the passage and underline every time one of the characters mentions the whale.

### 10 Think About It.

Using the underlined parts of the passage, write a paragraph explaining what you know about Moby Dick. Include as many details as possible.

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

### 11 Talk It Over.

Share your paragraph with a partner. Then, read your partner's paragraph. Compare and contrast your two descriptions. Add additional information to your description as needed. Then, as a class, discuss why you think Melville decided to name the book after the whale.



Extensive analysis on characters, themes, setting, values, motifs, symbols, metre, rhythm, summary skills & essay writing help students achieve mastery in the English language.



## Analyze the Characters

### 12 Fill It In.

a. Listen to the first half of the lecture and use the words from the phrase bank to fill in the graphic organizer.

**Phrase Bank**


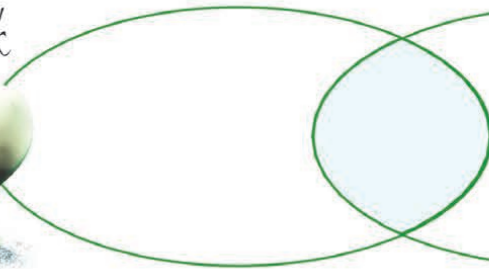

- natural goodness • religious
- inexperienced • introduce Ahab
- bloodthirsty • ship's owners
- harpooner • everyman • chief mate
- no fear of death • second mate • hates whales

Character	Role	Quality 1	Quality 2
Ishmael	narrator		
Peleg & Bildad		comic relief	
Queequeg		the "other"	
Starbuck		practical	
Stubb		joker	
Flask	third mate		

b. Listen to the second half of the lecture and use words from the phrase bank to fill in the Venn diagram.

**Phrase Bank**

- man • antagonist • invader • animal
- vengeful • wounded • in his element
- powerful • protagonist

*Moby Dick*   *Ahab* 

### 13 Think About It.

Use the Venn diagram to answer the following questions individually.

- Is Ahab similar to any of the members of his crew?
- Are Ahab and Moby Dick more similar than different?



**14 Talk It Over.**

Discuss the answers to the previous questions with a partner. Share your ideas with the class.

**Analyze the Setting**

**15 Fill It In.**

 Listen to a lecture about the setting in *Moby Dick*. Then, use information from the lecture to fill in the graphic organizer.

Aspect of Setting	Importance in <i>Moby Dick</i>
time	
place	

Thought-provoking questions enhance students' thinking skills and deepen their understanding of the literary works.

**16 Think About It.**

With a partner answer the following questions.

Why do you think Melville chose to set his novel in this time and place? Could the story take place in a different setting?

**17 Talk It Over.**

As a class, discuss your answers to the previous questions.



## Analyze the Symbols

### 18 Match It.

Moby Dick, the white whale, is the most important symbol in the novel. The whale means many different things to different people. Below are two columns. One column has some meanings of Moby Dick. The other column has lines from the book. Look at the two lists. Then, pick which lines you think go along with which ideas.

- 1  death
- 2  superstition
- 3  evil
- 4  revenge

- A Ahab has "piled upon the whale's white hump the sum of all the general rage and hate felt by his whole race."
- B Ahab says to Moby Dick, "To the last I grapple with thee; from hell's heart I stab at thee; for hate's sake I spit my last breath at thee."
- C Ahab asks another sailor, "Hast seen the White Whale?" and the man responds, "No; only heard of him; but don't believe in him at all."
- D The whale's whiteness reminds Ishmael of the "one visible aspect of the dead which most appals the gazer ... the marble pallor lingering there."

### 19 Think About It.

With a partner answer the following questions.

- Does Moby Dick mean the same thing to every person in the book?
- Do you think that Melville intended for Moby Dick to be an easy symbol to analyze? Why or why not?

### 20 Talk It Over.

As a class, discuss the following question.

Based on what you know about the book, which meaning do you think is most important? Why?

## Analyze the Themes

### 21 Fill It In.

Use lines from the passage to fill in the graphic organizer.

Theme	Lines from Passage
revenge	
madness	

### 22 Think About It.

Which theme do you think is most important in this passage and why?

### 23 Talk It Over.

Discuss your answer to the previous question with a partner.

Pair work and group work activities boost communication skills and foster social values.

Holistic approach is enhanced through multisensory tasks. Students read, listen, watch, speak and write on the same topic.



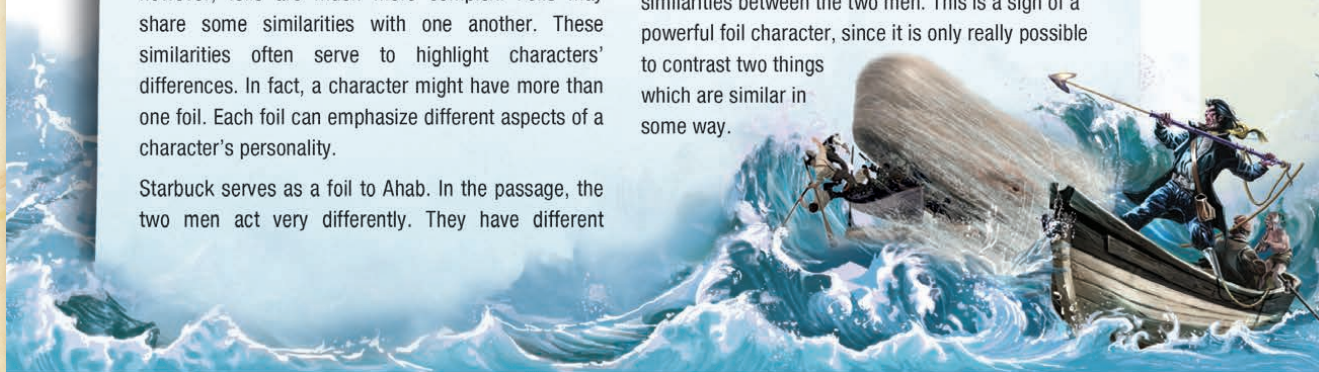
## In-Depth Analysis: Foils

In literature, a foil is a character that is different than another in an important way. The author uses foils to illuminate certain character traits in both characters. In some cases, foils are very simple. For example, one character might be honorable and good and the other might be evil and cruel. Most of the time, however, foils are much more complex. Foils may share some similarities with one another. These similarities often serve to highlight characters' differences. In fact, a character might have more than one foil. Each foil can emphasize different aspects of a character's personality.

Starbuck serves as a foil to Ahab. In the passage, the two men act very differently. They have different

objectives and goals. Starbuck's calm way of behaving and logical thought process makes Ahab look and sound all the more out of control and crazy. His insistence on whaling for profits shows how unreasonable Ahab's thirst for vengeance is.

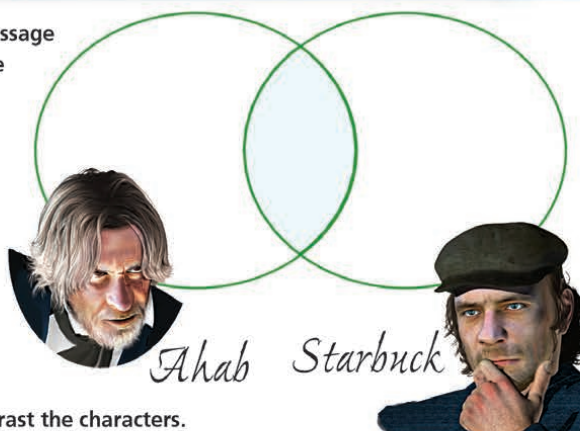
This contrast is made all the stronger, however, by the similarities between the two men. This is a sign of a powerful foil character, since it is only really possible to contrast two things which are similar in some way.



- 24** Read the In-Depth Analysis and reread the passage from *Moby Dick*. Then, use the words from the phrase bank to complete the Venn diagram.

**Phrase Bank**

- angry
- wants money
- insane
- position of authority
- whaler
- calm
- wants revenge
- has experience
- in control



- 25** Use your notes in Ex. 24 to compare and contrast the characters.
- 26** In groups of four, discuss your answers to Ex. 25. Then, as a group, talk about what *Moby Dick* represents to each man.

## Write

- 27** Authors use foils to emphasize certain traits in a character. What trait or traits do you think Melville wanted to emphasize in Ahab through his foil, Starbuck, and what difference in attitude do they have towards *Moby Dick*? Using your answers from the sections above, write a 250- to 300-word essay about how Starbuck works as a foil to Ahab in the novel.



VIDEO

See p. 216

for video activities  
& essay writing

## VIDEO ACTIVITIES & ESSAY WRITING SECTION SAMPLE PAGES

Video activities allow students to better understand the literary work.

### 6 | *Moby Dick*

#### Video Activities



1 Watch the video and answer the questions.

- 1 When was Herman Melville born?
- 2 What did he do for a living before writing professionally?
- 3 Which events was *Moby Dick* inspired by?
- 4 When does the story take place?
- 5 What happens to the main characters of the book in the end?
- 6 Why does Ahab want to take revenge on the whale?
- 7 How many members does the crew of the Pequod consist of?
- 8 Which actor took roles in two different screen adaptations of the book?

2 Watch again and complete the summary.

Their father's failed businesses meant the Melville children grew up in 1) ..... However, Herman was able to study the 2) ..... After an inspirational 3) ..... voyage and influenced by real-world events, Melville wrote a novel about a ship called the Pequod, and its captain's quest for 4) ..... against a huge white whale called Moby Dick. The characters' personality 5) ..... allow us to explore their social classes and 6) ..... systems. But the novel is also about the 7) ..... between good and evil, man and nature, and the destruction of sanity. However, it wasn't until the 8) ..... that the novel became critically recognized. After that, it was adapted for film and television, and a coffee chain even took its name from Captain Ahab's first mate!

#### Writing

Describe the character of Captain Ahab and explain why his crew follow him so willingly on his hunt for revenge.

The teacher's book contains useful pedagogy as well as answers to exercises, plans and model answers for all writing tasks.

**Unit 6 – Moby Dick**

She must choose between a conventional marriage with Edgar, which will bring her status and comfort, and the wild passionate love she has for Heathcliff. By choosing the former, she shows she values safety and security more than love. The terrible consequences of her choice, however, show us the danger of ignoring the passionate side of our nature.

**Unit 6 – Moby Dick**

**Predict (Suggested answers)**

**Step 1**

- 1 I think that the desire for revenge can be very strong because people like things to be fair. When someone does them wrong, people want to get back at them. It's a very natural emotion. We want to hurt people who have hurt us.
- 2 Even though it is a very natural feeling, I do not think that revenge is a healthy thing to work toward. I think that it is much healthier for people to forgive their enemies. I believe this because if a person is too concerned with revenge, he or she will never live life fully. It's not good to spend too much time thinking about how to get back at someone.

**Step 2**

The words in the chart emphasize a feeling of instability, uncertainty, and shock. There are also violent words, like "lance" and "blood." I have a feeling that this passage is going to include unpleasant elements. I don't think it will be sad, but probably angry and a little crazy.

**Background information (Suggested answers)**

- 1 1 hunting whales
- 2 a white whale
- 3 Ishmael
- 4 Ahab – captain; Queequeg – harpoonist; Starbuck – first mate; Stubb – second mate; Flask – third mate
- 5 Captain Ahab is obsessed with killing him.

**Listen & Read**

- 2 Ahab describes Moby Dick as "that accursed white whale." Starbuck calls Moby Dick "a dumb brute" and "a dumb thing."

**Respond (Suggested answers)**

- 3 1 Yes, I think that my prediction about the mood of the passage was fairly accurate.

Captain Ahab is definitely unstable in the passage. He alternates between laughing and crying, for example. There is also violence in the passage, as Ahab wants to kill Moby Dick and spill his blood.

- 2 The author created the mood mainly through the things that the characters say. Ahab's passionate words, for example, create a mood of slightly unhinged emotion. Furthermore, the description of the narrator also adds to the mood. For example, he says that Ahab sounds like a "heart-stricken moose." This makes Ahab seem like an animal, lending further credence to the idea that Ahab's not totally in control of his emotions.
- 3 The important people in the passage are Captain Ahab and Starbuck.
- 4 I think that Captain Ahab feels very passionate in this passage. He obviously cares very deeply about catching Moby Dick. At the same time, he is not in control of his emotions. He's behaving in an unstable manner. I think he is excited and, at the same time, tormented.

**Understand**

- 4 1 d      2 d      3 b      4 c

**Figurative Language**

- 5 An example of a simile is "like that of a heart-stricken moose"; an example of a pun is "A sharp eye for the white whale; a sharp lance for Moby Dick!"; an example of personification is "the jaws of Death."

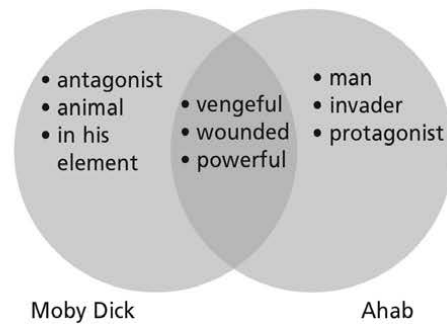
**Summarize**

6	Characters	Setting	Main Event(s)	Conflict(s)
	Captain Ahab, Starbuck, Stubb, Flask, various harpooners, seamen, Ishmael (narrator)	On the Pequod at sea	Captain Ahab and Starbuck talk about Moby Dick. Ahab explains why he wants to catch the whale.	Starbuck disagrees with Ahab's desire to chase after Moby Dick and tries to convince him that it's a bad plan.

- 7 In this section, Starbuck asks Captain Ahab if Moby Dick is the same whale that bit off Ahab's leg. Ahab tells Starbuck that it is the same whale. Then, Ahab states his desire to find and catch the white whale,

even if he has to chase him all around the world. He asks the men on board if they will commit to his vengeful quest, and they all agree. Starbuck objects, however. He says that he came aboard the ship to hunt whales and will happily try to kill Moby Dick if he sees the whale in the normal course of action. But he does not want to go on a wild goose chase to find the white whale, especially since it won't even get them much profit. Ahab tells Starbuck that the true profit will be in Ahab's heart. Starbuck chastises Ahab and tells him that wanting to get revenge on an unreasoning animal is blasphemous.

b



**Listen**

8 1 d                      2 b

**Analyze the Title (Suggested answers)**

9 Lines to be underlined: 5, 6, 8, 9, 12, 16, 18-20, 25, 29, 30, 31, 47, 49.

10 Moby Dick is a white whale. At some point in the past, he was involved in an accident with Captain Ahab. As a result, Captain Ahab lost his leg. Ahab seems to think that the whale took his leg maliciously. For this reason, Moby Dick is the focus of Ahab's insane revenge quest. Starbuck, however, tries to remind Ahab that Moby Dick is just an animal and incapable of reasoning.

11 I think Melville decided to name the book after the whale because the whale is very important to the action of the novel. Without Moby Dick, Ahab would probably be a fairly normal captain. The whaling trip would be commonplace. In addition, Moby Dick means different things to different people. He is a powerful symbol. This is another likely reason that Melville named the book after him.

**Analyze the Characters**

12	Character	Role	Quality 1	Quality 2
a	Ishmael	narrator	everyman	inexperienced
	Peleg & Bildad	ship's owners	comic relief	introduce Ahab
	Queequeg	harpooner	the "other"	natural goodness
	Starbuck	chief mate	practical	religious
	Stubb	second mate	joker	no fear of death
	Flask	third mate	bloodthirsty	hates whales

**13 (Suggested answers)**

- Ahab doesn't have much in common with the members of his crew. They are all sailors and they are all hunting for whales together, but that is where any resemblance ends. In fact, he is more like the whale he is hunting than his men.
- Moby Dick and Ahab are probably more similar than different. They are both beings of enormous power who have injured one another in the past. They are also filled with a need for revenge when hurt. However, Moby Dick only strikes back in the moment, and doesn't chase Ahab round the globe. Ahab is the invader into Moby Dick's natural element, and when the whale counterattacks, his vengeance is lethal.

14 Answers will be similar to those in Ex. 13.

**Analyze the Setting (Suggested answers)**

15	Aspect of Setting	Importance in Moby Dick
	time	The book takes place during a time in which whaling was a common and popular profession. In other times in the world's history, it wasn't as popular or widespread.
	place	Most of the action of the novel takes place at sea. The novel could not take place elsewhere.

**16 (Suggested answer)**

- I think that Melville chose to set the novel in this time and place because they suit the story best. For one thing, whaling was popular at this time. At no other time in the history of the world has whaling been so popular. So in order for Ishmael to even end up on the ship,



# "PATHWAYS TO LITERATURE" TEACHER'S BOOK SAMPLE PAGES

## Unit 6 – Moby Dick

it makes sense for the novel to take place when it does. Secondly, the place is equally as important. The action in the novel can only take place if the men are at sea. People can't hunt whales from land. So, Melville chose the setting he did because it is hard to imagine a different setting in which the novel could still take place.

17 Answers will be similar to those in Ex. 16.

### Analyze the Symbols

18 1 D 2 C 3 A 4 B

19 (Suggested answers)

- No, I do not think that Moby Dick means the same thing to everyone in the novel. Simply based on these four short excerpts from the text, it seems obvious that there are many different views of the white whale.
- I do not think that Melville intended for Moby Dick to have one overarching meaning in the novel. I think, instead, that Melville wanted Moby Dick to be big, incomprehensible, and an enigma throughout the entire novel.

20 (Suggested answer)

- It's hard to pick one meaning for Moby Dick. They are all important to the story. However, I believe that the idea of vengeance is the most important to the book. The reason I think this is that without Ahab's desire for revenge, the events of the novel would not take place. If Ahab wasn't so intent on avenging his lost leg, he would not take the Pequod all across the ocean to find the whale. So I believe that Moby Dick's most important role in the story is as a symbol of the destructive power of revenge.

### Analyze the Themes (Suggested answers)

Theme	Lines from Passage
revenge	"I'll chase him round Good Hope, and round the Horn, and round the Norway Maelstrom, and round perdition's flames before I give him up," "it was that accursed white whale that razed me," "my vengeance will fetch a great premium HERE!"

Theme	Lines from Passage
madness	"'Aye, aye,' he shouted with a terrific, loud, animal sob, like that of a heart-stricken moose," "tossing both arms with measureless imprecations," "the excited old man"

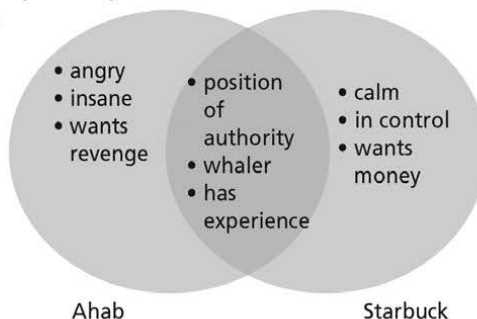
22 (Suggested answer)

I think that the most important theme in this part is the idea of madness. Captain Ahab acts like he is having trouble controlling himself and his emotions. The narrator compares him to an animal. He also states that Ahab is waving his arms around and cursing heavily. Ahab acts as though the whale attacked him for personal reasons and he personifies the whale as being evil. These are not things that a normal person would do. In fact, Starbuck tries to convince him that he's being irrational, but Ahab won't have it. He tells Starbuck that his "vengeance will fetch a great premium HERE!" and hits his chest. He's clearly not in control of himself, and this is what drives the action of the book. His lack of control and his descent into madness eventually result in the loss of his entire ship and his own life.

23 Answers will be similar to those in Ex. 22.

### In-Depth Analysis: Foils

24



25 (Suggested answers)

How are the two characters similar?

- 1 They are both sailors on a whaling ship.
- 2 Both men are in positions of authority. Ahab is in control of the entire ship, but Starbuck is second in command.
- 3 They both have lots of experience on whaling expeditions.

How are the two characters different?

- 1 Ahab is angry, whereas Starbuck is calmer.
- 2 Starbuck came on the trip to catch whales and make money, but Ahab wants to get revenge.
- 3 Starbuck is in control of himself and his actions. Ahab, however, is out of control and seems insane.

26 *(Suggested answer)*

For Starbuck, Moby Dick is simply a dangerous whale. This doesn't frighten Starbuck, who is willing to fight him if it "comes in the way of the business we follow", but he does not want to spend precious whaling time trying to find the white whale. Moby Dick, like all whales, represents profit to him, and barrels of spermaceti. For Ahab, Moby Dick has become more than just an animal, but a cruel enemy who took Ahab's life away when he took his leg. Ahab has his own view about the white whale. For example, the narrator states that Ahab had "piled upon the whale's white hump the sum of all the general rage and hate felt by his whole race." This means that, to Ahab, Moby Dick represented all that is evil and bad in the world. This actually suggests something about Ahab. He has a strong sense of justice and wants to make the world a better place – even if he's chosen a strange and misguided way to do it.

**Preparation for essay writing**

- 1 Ask Ss to read through the essay question and underline the key words. Go through the question with the whole class.

**To be underlined:** foils; emphasize certain traits in a character; what trait or traits; you think; Melville wanted; emphasize in Ahab through his foil, Starbuck; what difference in attitude towards Moby Dick; Using your answers from the sections above; 250- to 300-word essay; how Starbuck works as a foil.

- 2 Put Ss in groups of three and ask them to look at the essay question again together. Give them five minutes to brainstorm ideas for the essay, then ask individual Ss to share the ideas with the class. Write them in an unordered list on the board.

*(Suggested answer)*

- Starbuck is calm and rational ("I came here to hunt whales, not my commander's vengeance"), whereas Ahab is emotional and unstable ("to chase that white whale on both sides of land, and over all sides of earth, till he spouts black blood").

- Despite Starbuck's wise words, the crew chooses to follow Ahab's crazed quest, and therefore choose emotion over logic.
- Similarities between the two characters include: both are experienced whalers, both have high positions of authority. Starbuck is the only character that Ahab will debate with about Moby Dick.
- Starbuck thinks of Moby Dick as just like any other whale, this highlights Ahab's hatred and obsession.
- The similarities between the two help to highlight the differences when they arise.

- 3 Write the following plan outline on the board. In their groups, Ss complete it.

Introduction  
Paragraph 2  
Paragraph 3  
Paragraph 4  
Conclusion

*(Suggested answer)*

Introduction

Introduce the novel and the characters of Starbuck and Ahab.

Explain that the similarities between the two help to draw attention to the differences.

Paragraph 2

Address the similarities between the two.

They are both experienced and have authority. Ahab talks to Starbuck as an equal.

Paragraph 3

Address the differences between the characters.

Use examples from the text to demonstrate the differences between the calm Starbuck and the emotional Ahab.

The calm tone of Starbuck highlights the derangement of Ahab.

Paragraph 4

Address the two characters attitudes towards Moby Dick.

Starbuck's attitude puts Ahab's into a new light, showing him to be an obsessive who is endangering his crew.

Conclusion

Repeat what the character of Starbuck highlights about Ahab and whether you believe that was Melville's intention.

State the effect these characters had on the crew and what the consequences of this were.

# "PATHWAYS TO LITERATURE" TEACHER'S BOOK SAMPLE PAGES

## Unit 7 – Great Expectations

### Write (Suggested answers)

#### 27 Starbuck, Ahab's foil

In *Moby Dick*, one of the most important relationships is the one between Captain Ahab and his first mate, Starbuck. They have a number of similarities which make their differences all the more obvious, and which make certain traits of Ahab's stand out very strongly in contrast.

Both men are experienced whalers and have the two highest positions of authority on the ship, those of captain and first mate. Ahab talks to Starbuck almost as an equal, unlike the rest of the crew. Starbuck seems to be the only one Ahab is willing to engage in debate about the hunt for Moby Dick.

This, however, is where their similarities end. Where Starbuck is calm and rational, saying "I came here to hunt whales, not my commander's vengeance," Ahab is emotional and unreasonable, with his aim "to chase that white whale on both sides of land, and over all sides of earth, till he spouts black blood." Because of Starbuck's sensible way of speaking, Ahab's comes across as even more deranged.

Similarly, Starbuck's attitude to Moby Dick shows how strange Ahab's is. To Starbuck, Moby Dick is a whale just like any other whale, to be hunted if the opportunity presents itself, but not to be the sole target of a whaling trip. This puts Ahab's hatred for the whale in a different light, showing it to be an obsession that risks the lives of the entire crew.

Starbuck is Ahab's foil and illuminates the emotional instability of Ahab's character, which I believe was Melville's intention. What is most interesting about the book, for me, is how the crew follow Ahab's crazed quest without second thought, ignoring Starbuck's wise words of warning. They choose emotion over logic, in other words, and pay for it with their lives.

## Unit 7 – Great Expectations

### Predict (Suggested answers)

#### Step 1

- 1 I believe that people from two different social classes can be friends. People have things in common that go beyond how much money they have or what their jobs are. So there is a potential to be friends with someone regardless of what class they belong to.
- 2 Social class creates situations in which one group of people thinks that they are better than another group. People might feel uncomfortable spending time with another person because of

that person's class. In addition, people might ignore or be rude to someone because he or she is of a "lower class" than they are.

#### Step 2

It seems like this passage might be about social class and what it means. The word "divisions" sticks out. So do the words "sir" and "blacksmith". It seems like there might be a class conflict of some kind in the passage.

#### Background Information

- |   |                       |   |                 |
|---|-----------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1 | 1 They died.          | 4 | Magwitch        |
| 2 | He isn't a gentleman. | 5 | It has a moral. |
| 3 | Miss Havisham         |   |                 |

#### Listen & Read (Suggested answer)

- 2 Pip must be feeling very upset in this passage. He is in a position of great conflict: he is having dinner with Joe, the man who brought him up, yet he is now in a higher social class than Joe and Joe is calling him "sir." After Joe leaves, Pip regrets letting him go, but can't find him when he goes out looking for him.

#### Respond (Suggested answers)

- 3 1 Yes, my prediction about the passage was mostly correct. Joe is saying goodbye to Pip and telling him that he doesn't belong in Pip's world. Joe is uncomfortable in the clothes he's wearing. He understands that he's not part of Pip's social class anymore. He knows where he belongs and can tell that Pip doesn't want him around.
- 2 The author communicated the main ideas in the passage mainly through dialogue. Joe talks to Pip for most of the passage. At the very end, we get a bit of narration in which Pip describes his reaction to the meeting. Most of the information, however, comes through dialogue.
- 3 The important people in the passage are Joe and Pip.
- 4 I think that Pip probably feels ashamed and maybe a little sad in this passage. Pip knows that he hasn't been treating Joe very well. Instead of being mad, though, Joe is very understanding. He tells Pip that he won't come to see him anymore, even though this must make Joe feel very sad. When Joe leaves, Pip probably has a lot to think about.

#### Understand

- |   |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 4 | 1 b | 2 c | 3 a | 4 c |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|

# "PATHWAYS TO LITERATURE" TEACHER'S BOOK

## SAMPLE PAGES

### Paragraph 3

Address Heathcliff's reaction to Cathy's death and how he sets out to destroy others in his grief. Here we see that Heathcliff can only create misery around him and dies a tormented soul. Only after Heathcliff is dead can love blossom.

### Conclusion

Show that although *Wuthering Heights* is a tale of loss and grief, it also shows the redemptive power of love. State when love is destructive and when love is redemptive.

### Writing (Suggested answer)

#### Two Aspects of Love in *Wuthering Heights*

*Wuthering Heights* is a story of thwarted relationships and destructive passion. The cycle of tragedy is set off by Catherine Earnshaw's rejection of her adopted brother, Heathcliff. His despair and cruelty and abusive as he seel has wronged him. Though he destroys himself in the process.

Heathcliff arrives at the orphan. He is bullied by his love with Catherine. However man of wealth and heartbroken when he hears gypsy, would 'degrade' Catherine later returns a wealthy man soon after childbirth because man she really loved, Heathcliff. Now Heathcliff has Catherine's death, he sets out until he too dies. He kills the woman he loved and found child incapable of showing creates only misery around loss of the only love he tormented soul. Only when begin to blossom again.

Though *Wuthering Heights* loss and grief which lead abuse, it is also a story of love. Love is shown to be when ruled by passion one when ruled by kind

## Unit 6 – Moby Dick

### Video Activities

- 1 1819
  - 2 Melville was a teacher and a sailor.
  - 3 the sinking of the Essex in 1820 after an attack by a whale, and the slaughter of an albino sperm whale called 'Mocha Dick' in the 1830s
  - 4 in the 19th century
  - 5 Except for Ishmael, they all die.
  - 6 because he lost a leg to Moby Dick's jaws
  - 7 30
  - 8 Gregory Peck
- 2 1 poverty
  - 2 classics
  - 3 year-and-a-half
  - 4 revenge
  - 5 traits
  - 6 belief
  - 7 struggle
  - 8 early 20th century

### Preparation for essay writing

#### Introduction

#### Paragraph 2

#### Conclusion

### (Suggested answer)

#### Introduction

Introduce the character of Captain Ahab. Explain some of his personality traits and suggest a reason for his crew following him so willingly.

#### Paragraph 2

Address Ahab's positive personality traits. Refer to the air of mystery that he creates and the sense of pity that he instills in the crew.

Address Ahab's bad personality traits. Show how despite this, it is Ahab's sense of purpose and revenge that motivate the crew to follow him.

#### Conclusion

Summarize the character of Ahab and the contents of the main body paragraphs.

Show how his obsession leads to his death and how this makes him a tragic hero.

Make a judgment call on what sort of character this makes him.

### Writing (Suggested answer)

#### A Tragic Hero

Captain Ahab is the star of Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* and is one of the most famous and complex characters in literature. He is insane, egotistical, and obsessive. So then why do his crew follow him willingly on his mad quest for revenge? Perhaps the answer to this lies in the air of mystery and tragedy that surrounds him.

Ahab displays a range of personality traits throughout the book that, although deeply flawed, make him appeal to both the crew of the *Pequod* and the reader. Ishmael, the narrator, knows nothing about the captain before boarding the boat, but hears inspiring tales from others about how he is "god-like," creating a mysterious picture of an impressive man. On his first appearance to the crew, Ahab mentions his missing leg and his quest for revenge against the whale, thereby encouraging the sailors to take pity on him and feel compassion for his misfortune. Although he often shows his worst side to the crew, often flying into fits of rage, his extreme sense of purpose and the obvious physical damage that he received from Moby Dick inspire his crew to follow him, ultimately to their doom.

### Video Activities & Essay Writing

Ahab is insane and inspiring, courageous and cowardly, and an incredibly complicated man. His motivations are understandable and maybe even admirable, and the loss of his leg inspires pity and understanding with the other sailors. Even though he rarely seems to notice the crew around him, he manages to convince all on board to follow him. Like all tragic heroes, though, his obsession ultimately leads to his death. In Ahab, we can see both the best and worst of human nature. What could be more compelling than that?

## Unit 7 – Great Expectations

### Video Activities

- 1 1 T
  - 2 F (After taking several jobs ...)
  - 3 F (in parts)
  - 4 F (in Kent too)
  - 5 T
  - 6 T
  - 7 T
  - 8 F (two)
- 2 1 1812
  - 2 successful
  - 3 Victorian
  - 4 first
  - 5 twists
  - 6 hardships
  - 7 guilt
  - 8 evil

### Preparation for essay writing

- 1 Ask Ss to read through the essay question and underline the key words. Go through the question with the whole class.

**To be underlined:** How; relationship between Magwitch and Pip; develop; *Great Expectations*; what way; mirror the moral message behind the novel

- 2 Put Ss in groups of three and ask them to look at the essay question again together. Give them five minutes to brainstorm ideas for the essay, then ask individual Ss to share the ideas with the class. Write them in an unordered list on the board.

### (Suggested answer)

- Pip's changing attitude to Magwitch is used to explore the class and legal systems and the unethical treatment of the poor.
- Once Pip learns that Magwitch has sponsored him, his disgust develops into love and responsibility. This shows how the class system influenced his morals.

# "PATHWAYS TO LITERATURE" STUDENT'S BOOK SAMPLE PAGES

## Glossary

**degrade me** (phr) = bring me down (socially, morally)  
**perished** (v) = died, went away  
**annihilated** (v) = completely destroyed  
**foliage** (n) = leaves, greenery  
**resembles** (v) = is the same as  
**eternal** (adj) = everlasting

### Unit 6 – Moby Dick

(p. 98)

**eyeing** (v) = looking at  
**superior** (n) = boss  
**seemed struck with a thought** (phr) = seemed to get an idea  
**thy** (pron) = your  
**thee** (pron) = you  
**aye** (excl) = yes  
**my hearties** (phr) = my good men, my sailors  
**dismasted** (v) = literally, broke the mast (a tall pole on a ship) off; here Ahab uses it to mean the whale bit off his leg  
**sob** (n) = a loud sharp breath taken while crying  
**heart-stricken** (adj) = hit in the heart with a weapon  
**accursed** (adj) = hateful  
**razed** (v) = literally, removed the top deck from a ship; here Ahab is again referring to his injury  
**pegging** (adj) = walking on a peg leg  
**lubber** (n) = a clumsy person  
**measureless** (adj) = countless  
**imprecations** (n) = curses  
**Good Hope** (n) = one of the southern most points of Africa  
**The Horn** (n) = Cape Horn, one of the southernmost points of South America  
**Norway's Maelstrom** (n) = a strong current off the coast of Norway  
**perdition** (n) = a doomed, terrible place where evil people go when they die  
**rolls fin out** (phr) = dies  
**splice** (v) = to join  
**harpooners** (n pl) = people who use weapons called harpoons to kill whales  
**seamen** (n pl) = sailors  
**lance** (n) = a weapon used to hunt whales  
**steward** (n) = a person on a ship whose job it is to bring people food and drink  
**draw** (v) = to pour  
**great measure** (phr) = large amount

**grog** (n) = a kind of drink  
**long face** (phr) = sad expression  
**wilt thou** (phr) = will you  
**art not game for Moby Dick** (phr) = aren't you eager to catch Moby Dick  
**vengeance** (n) = revenge  
**how many barrels will thy vengeance yield thee even if thou gettest it** (phr) = how many barrels of spermaceti will revenge earn you  
**it will not fetch thee much** (phr) = you won't get much  
**Hoot** (excl) = exclamation of amusement  
**thou requirest a little lower layer** (phr) = you need a different explanation  
**if money's to be the measurer** (phr) = if money is going to be the way we measure success  
**accountants** (n pl) = people who keep track of money  
**computed** (v) = calculated  
**girdling** (v) = circling  
**guineas** (n pl) = coins  
**three parts of an inch** (phr) = third of an inch (about 0.8 cm)

**welded together** (phr v) = joined by heat (usually used to refer to metals)  
**blacksmith** (n) = a person who makes things out of iron or steel  
**whitesmith** (n) = a person who makes things out of light metals, like tin  
**goldsmith** (n) = a person who makes things out of gold  
**coppersmith** (n) = a person who makes things out of copper (a kind of metal)  
**divisions** (n pl) = divisions, separations (the misspelling is meant to replicate Joe's working-class accent)  
**such** (pron) = such people  
**figures** (n pl) = people  
**what is private** (phr) = in private places  
**beknown** (v) = known  
**ain't** (non-standard contraction) = is not  
**right** (adj) = good, natural  
**wrong** (adj) = unnatural  
**forge** (n) = a blacksmith's workshop  
**meshes** (n pl) = marshes, wetlands  
**forge dress** (phr) = working clothes

## Words of Wisdom

*We know what we are, but know  
not what we may be.*

William Shakespeare

*Tis strange – but true; for truth is strange;  
Stranger than fiction.*

Lord Byron

*Neither a borrower nor a lender be.*

William Shakespeare

*Always laugh when you can. It is cheap  
medicine.*

Lord Byron

*Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none.*

William Shakespeare

*Every moment dies a man, Every moment  
one is born.*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

*A friend should bear his friend's infirmities.*

William Shakespeare

*Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers.*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

*It is a wise father that knows his child.*

William Shakespeare

*My strength is as the strength of ten,  
because my heart is pure.*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

*Wisely and slowly; they stumble  
who run fast.*

William Shakespeare

*No man ever got high by pulling other  
people down.*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

*I love not Man the less, but Nature more.*

Lord Byron

*Be thou the rainbow in the storms of life.*

Lord Byron

*A lie which is half a truth is ever the  
blackest of lies.*

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

# "PATHWAYS TO LITERATURE" STUDENT'S BOOK SAMPLE PAGES

1

## Sonnet 18

**Objectives**

By the end of this unit, you will:

- know about the author and the background information behind the poem
- thoroughly understand the poem
- be able to identify figurative language in the poem
- be able to summarize the poem
- be able to put the poem into modern English
- be able to analyze the characters, symbols, meter, and themes of the poem
- know and be able to describe the structure of a Shakespearean sonnet
- be able to use the poem to support your opinions and write a literature essay

**Learn About ... William Shakespeare**

**W**illiam Shakespeare (1564-1616) was an English playwright and poet. He is most famous for his plays, but his sonnets are equally important. These short poems are usually love poems addressed to a particular person. Shakespeare wrote at least 154 sonnets. He wrote them when he was already very famous for his plays. Experts place the sonnets into three groups, each addressed to a different person. There are many guesses as to the identity of the three different subjects of the sonnets. Some people think that they know exactly who Shakespeare was writing to. Others, however, don't think that he was writing to any real people at all. The debate will probably not end any time soon, but it doesn't really matter. People can enjoy these poems regardless of who they were written for.

**Predict**

**Step 1**

Discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 Why is love a popular subject in poetry?
- 2 Do you think that writing a poem is a good way to tell a person that you love him or her? Why or why not?

**Step 2**

Look at the key words from *Sonnet 18*. With a partner, discuss the meaning of the words. Based on the words, predict the main ideas in the poem.

12

1

**Background information**

- 1 Read the text and answer the questions.
  - 1 When was the sonnet published?
  - 2 What type of poem is it?
  - 3 What is the poem about?
  - 4 When and where does it take place?

**Sonnet 18, or Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day?**

as it is sometimes called, is one of Shakespeare's most famous sonnets. It was first published in 1609 and, like many sonnets, is a love poem. The speaker begins by considering the idea of comparing his beloved to a summer day. However, he soon thinks of many different reasons why this comparison is not ideal. Instead, he realizes that his beloved will live forever in the lines of the poem. The time and place of the poem are not identified and are unimportant to the meaning of the poem.

13

10

## The Time Machine

**Objectives**

By the end of this unit, you will:

- know about the author and the background information behind the novel
- thoroughly understand the passage from the novel
- be able to identify figurative language in the passage
- be able to summarize the passage
- be able to analyze the characters, setting, symbols, and themes of the novel
- know about genre in some depth
- be able to use the passage to support your opinions and write a literature essay

**Learn About ... H.G. Wells**

**H**erbert George Wells (1866-1946) was an English writer. He wrote many different things during his lifetime, including novels, textbooks, and social commentaries. Today, however, he is best-known for his science fiction stories and novels. In fact, he is often referred to as "the Father of Science Fiction." Though this title is shared with other writers of the time, it is undeniable that Wells helped create the science fiction genre.

Wells worked as a teacher for much of his early life. This allowed him to support himself and still have time to write. He had several best-sellers, both fiction and non-fiction, during his life. His works deal with a wide variety of different and recognizable themes, such as alien invasions, future dystopias, and time travel. After achieving fame, he left teaching to write and lecture full time.

Wells' impact on modern science fiction cannot be overstated. Even today, his writings continue to inspire and fascinate readers worldwide.

**Predict**

**Step 1**

Discuss these questions with a partner.

- 1 Do you think that the world will be better or worse in the future? Explain.
- 2 Why do people enjoy thinking about and imagining the future of the world?

**Step 2**

Look at the key words from the passage from *The Time Machine*. With a partner, discuss the meaning of the words. Based on the words, predict the main ideas of the passage.

136

10

**Background Information**

- 1 Read the text and answer the questions.
  - 1 What are the Eloi like?
  - 2 Where does the time traveler believe the Eloi came from at first?
  - 3 What is the time traveler's second theory, after he discovers the existence of the Morlocks?
  - 4 What is the true relationship between the Eloi and the Morlocks?
  - 5 What life does the time traveler see in the time of the dying sun?

*The Time Machine* is about a man who travels into the future. He builds a time machine (Wells was the first author to use the term "time machine") and goes to the year 802,701 AD. When he arrives, he sees futuristic, though run-down buildings. There is also a race of people there called the Eloi. They're small, childlike, and don't appear to work or do much of anything. The time traveler tries to talk to them, but they're not really interested.

He does, however, make friends with one, a woman named Weena. Weena follows the time traveler around and the two spend a lot of time together as the time traveler studies the land and people around him. He concludes that the Eloi are a peaceful, communist race who evolved to not need intellect or strength to survive. He takes this as an indication of their superior state.

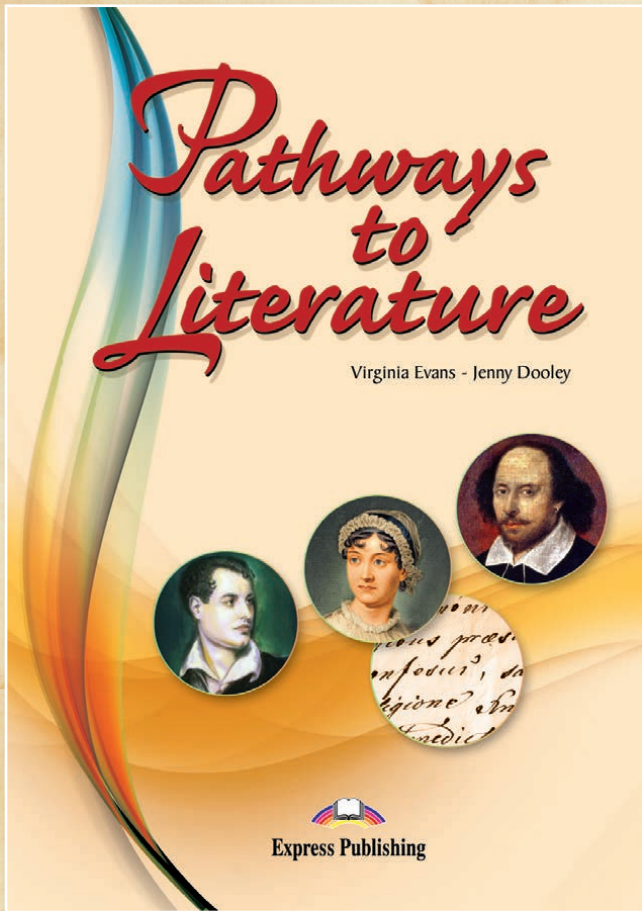
Later, the time traveler realizes that his time machine is missing. As he looks for it, he discovers that there are creatures living under the ground. They're ape-like and primitive, and called Morlocks. Underground, where the Morlocks live, is all the machinery that keeps the surface world functioning. The time traveler thinks that humanity must have split into two different species: the idle Eloi and the hard-working Morlocks.

Soon, the time traveler changes his hypothesis again. He sees the Morlocks attack, kill, and eat one of the Eloi. He realizes that the Eloi are nothing but a food source for the Morlocks, and leaves, horrified. Next he goes forward millions of years, to a time when the sun is dying. There is no sign of civilization, and the only animals he sees are giant white butterflies and huge red crabs. He returns home and tells his friends, but no one believes him. He disappears in the time machine again to bring back proof, and never returns.

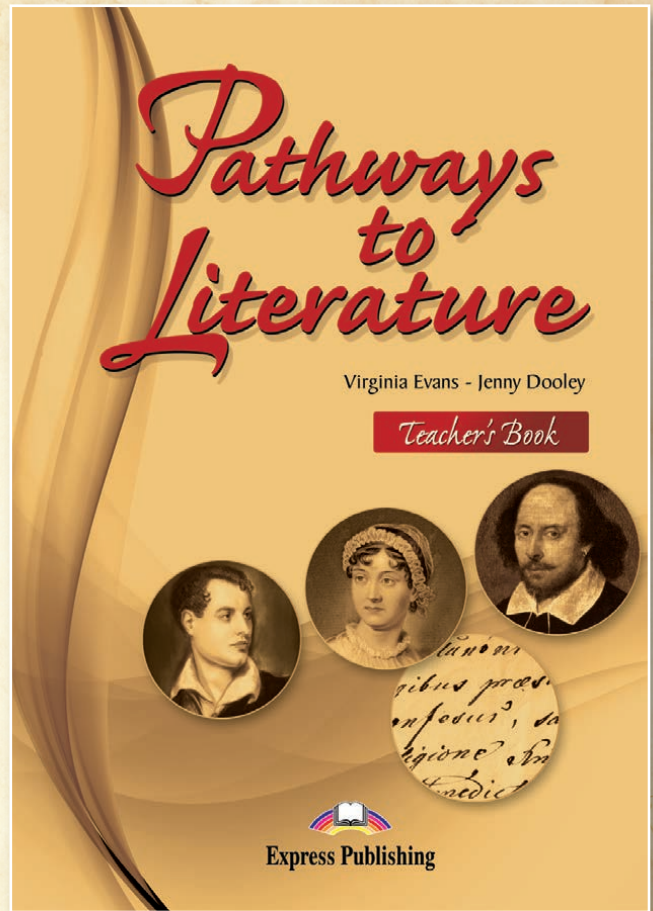
*The Time Machine* was hailed as a masterpiece from its first release. Written 36 years after Charles Darwin published *On the Origin of Species*, it takes as law his theory of the evolution of the human race. Like many of Wells' other works, it contains both bold predictions about the future and critical commentary on the social and political structures that existed in Wells' own time.

137

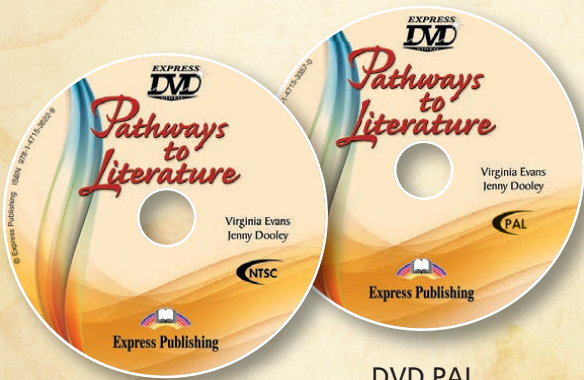
# Components



Student's Book

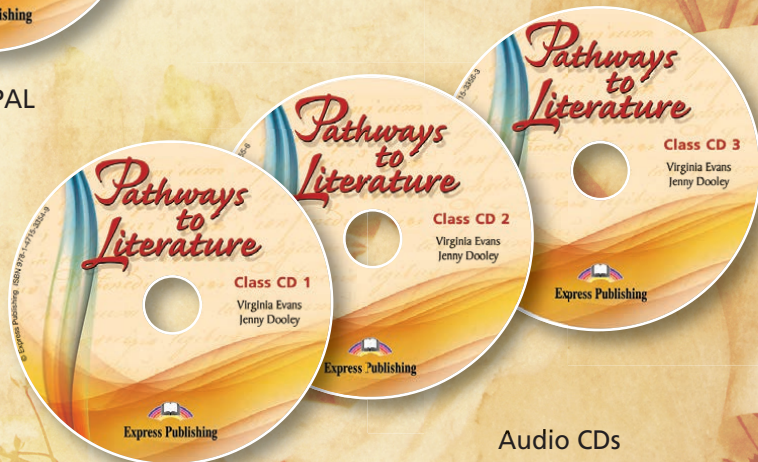


Teacher's Book



DVD NTSC

DVD PAL



Audio CDs

# Pathways to Literature

*Pathways to Literature* provides an exploration of English literary masters' timeless works from the 16th to the 20th century. It aims to teach important values and help learners acquire a better understanding of both the English language and the cultural heritage of the English-speaking world.

The course includes a wide variety of excerpts with carefully planned activities that allow students to approach English Literature with confidence. Extensive analysis on title, characters, themes, setting, values, motifs, symbols, meter, and rhythm, as well as summary skills and essay writing, provide a pathway to achieving mastery in English Literature.

The video documentaries, with content closely linked to that of the course, provide context for learning and enhance students' knowledge of the literary works studied.

## **Components**

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