American Literature

Semester 1 Overview

Mr. Kistler

In Semester 1, the curriculum covers American short stories, humorous pieces, Drama, Romantic poetry, Transcendentalist works, Fireside poets, and early colonial pieces. Works include those of Mark Twain, Washington Irving, Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, William Bradford, Herman Melville, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and many others. Students answer homework questions about the readings on a daily basis, and also take regular quizzes and tests. Two end of quarter research papers were also assigned on the lives of famous authors or historical figures. These papers were an average of five pages, and required a Sources page. The semester ended with a cumulative final exam.