

The Function of Place in Eudora Welty’s “A Visit of Charity” and “A Worn Path”

By Carolyn McCown and Shirley Wells
For Honors English 11 team teaching unit

Instructional Objectives:

- to examine how Welty transforms actual places and events into fiction
- to identify how the archetypal journey motif informs Welty’s fiction

Teaching Strategies:

- Teachers will orally share biographical information learned from NEH Conference.
- Students will take The Eudora House Virtual Tour <http://mdah.state.ms.us/welty/>.
- Students will read two Welty short stories: “A Visit of Charity” (paired partners) and “A Worn Path” (class).
- For each story students will make a list of place descriptors, identify biographical connections, and explain the story’s archetypal journey.
- Students will complete graphic organizer to denote similarities/differences between the two stories. (see attachment)

Assessments for Objectives:

1. Formative Assessment

- Socratic discussion of place and motif in two short stories (see attachment)
- Graphic organizer

2. Summative Assessment

- Literary analysis of the application of place and motif in “A Visit of Charity” and “A Worn Path” (see attachment)

The Function of Place in Eudora Welty's "A Visit of Charity" and "A Worn Path"
Graphic Organizer

"A Visit of Charity"

"A Worn Path"

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| <p>Identify journey and its significance</p> <p>(Cite page numbers with examples.)</p> | | |
| <p>Describe place (both concretely and figuratively)</p> <p>(Cite page numbers with examples.)</p> | | |
| <p>Identify effect of place on character's actions</p> <p>(Cite page numbers with examples.)</p> | | |
| <p>Explain influence of place on plot</p> <p>(Cite page numbers with examples.)</p> | | |

**The Function of Place in Eudora Welty's "A Visit of Charity" and "A Worn Path"
Literary Analysis**

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**The Function of Place in Eudora Welty’s “A Visit of Charity” and “A Worn Path”
Summative Assessment: Literary Analysis**

“The habit of love cuts through confusion and stumbles or contrives its way out of difficulty. It remembers the way even when it forgets for a dumbfounded moment its reason for being. The path is the thing that matters.”

Eudora Welty

Instructions: Write a comparison/contrast essay over the two Welty stories. You may choose to use either point-by-point or subject-by-subject development. Your analysis must thoroughly address the following essential question: How does Welty use place to establish a journey motif that offers the reader insight into human nature?

Comparison/Contrast Grading Rubric

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|-----------|
| Organization Thesis, method of development, paragraph format | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | X | 5 | _____ |
| Content Ideas, supporting examples, accurate use of comparison/contrast transitions | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | X | 5 | _____ |
| Sentence Fluency Varied style, expressive, flows from point to point | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | X | 4 | _____ |
| Word Choice Exact, expresses author’s intent, appropriate to context | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | X | 4 | _____ |
| Conventions Correct spelling, grammar, punctuation, usage | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | X | 2 | _____ |
| | | | | | | | Total | _____/100 |