**INFO SHEET #6: FEMINIST APPROACH**

**Competency**

**MELC:** ***EN10WC-IIIg-14.*** Compose an independent critique of a chosen selection.

**Objectives**

After the end of the lessons, the learners are expected to be able to:

1. define Feminist approach in critiquing a literary piece;
2. identify the questions to ask using Feminist approach;
3. write a critique of literary piece using Feminist approach.

**Key Information**

**FEMINIST**

**Feminist approach** helps us look at literature in a different light. It applies the philosophies and perspective of feminism to the literature we read. **Feminist approach** reminds us that literary values, conventions, and even the production of literature, have themselves been historically shaped by men. They invite us to consider writings by women, both new and forgotten, and also ask us to consider viewing familiar literature through a feminist perspective. This approach examines images of women and concepts of the feminine in myth and literature; uses the psychological, archetypal, and sociological approaches; often focuses on female characters who have been neglected in previous criticism. Feminist critics attempt to correct or supplement what they regard as a predominantly male-dominated critical perspective.

**Questions for Feminist Approach:**

* How are women’s lives portrayed in the work?
* Is the form and content of the work influenced by the writer’s gender?
* How do male and female characters relate to one another? Are these relationships sources of conflict? Are these conflicts resolved?
* Does the work challenge or affirm traditional views of women?
* How do the images of women in the story reflect patriarchal social forces that have impeded women’s efforts to achieve full equality with men?
* What marital expectations are imposed on the characters? What effect do these expectations have?
* What behavioral expectations are imposed on the characters? What effect do these expectations have?
* If a female character were male, how would the story be different (and vice versa)?
* How does the marital status of a character affect her decisions or happiness?

*Source:* [*Microsoft Word - LitCrit.1.docx (weebly.com)*](https://oreillylpci.weebly.com/uploads/8/7/8/9/8789260/litcrit.1.pdf)

**Suggested selection to be analyzed using Feminist Approach: “THE HUNGER GAMES”**

**Directions: Read the article or watch about the movie, “The Hunger Games.” If you do not have access to the internet, you may use the summary of the story / movie below. Critic the story using Feminist Approach.**

**“The Hunger Games”**

*By: Suzanne Collins*

**“The Hunger Games”** is set in our world, but in a post-apocalyptic time. In a dystopian future, the totalitarian nation of Panem is divided into 12 districts and the Capitol. The Capitol is the cruel Government of these twelve districts, which was once North America. Each year two young representatives from each district are selected by lottery to participate in The Hunger Games. Part entertainment, part brutal retribution for a past rebellion, the televised games are broadcast throughout Panem. The 24 participants are forced to eliminate their competitors while the citizens of Panem are required to watch.

Our main character is Katniss Everdeen, who volunteers in the place of her younger sister Primrose for District Twelve. The male “tribute” for the district is Peeta Mellark, the son of a baker, who is in love with Katniss. She and her male counterpart, Peeta, are pitted against bigger, stronger representatives, some of whom have trained for this their whole lives. During the Games, Katniss uses his love to her advantage, so that the wealthy audience can send her food and medicine.

All the citizens from districts four to twelve hate the Capitol because of the oppression, poverty and violence that they suffer. Katniss angers the Capitol during the Games when her new friend Rue from District Eleven is killed, and she shows compassion by laying flowers on her body. Furthermore, at the end of the Games, only Peeta and Katniss remain, so each refuses to kill the other. Instead, they agree to eat poisoned berries together so that there is no winner for the Capitol. In response, rather than being humiliated in front of the districts, the Capitol allow the couple to win together. The other districts watching the Games have now witnessed an act of rebellion, and they want more. Thus, a second revolution is about to be born…

**Sources:** Collins, Suzanne. (2012). The Hunger Games Plot Summary. Retrieved from <https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1392170/plotsummary>

Murray, Ciara. (24 April 2012). The Hunger Games Trilogy - Plot Summary. Retrieved from https://learnenglishteens.britishcouncil.org/magazine/books/hunger-games-trilogy-plot-summary



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