



OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

LOCATION

Building(s): Olentangy High School

Classes/Grade Level(s): 9th-10th grade CP English

ABOUT THE BOOK

Selection Title/Author: *The Pearl*, John Steinbeck

Genre: Literary fiction, realistic fiction

Lexile Reading Level: 1000L

Total number of pages: 97pgs

Book Summary (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)

The story is set on the Baja California coast in the late 19th century. Kino, Juana, and their son Coyotito are a poor family. Kino is a descendant of the native people and lives as a diver finding pearls to sell. He finds an enormous, bright pearl one day and then his life changes forever as he deals with sudden fortune, envy, and greed. His neighbors and townsfolk start to look at him in a different way.

Potentially Objectionable Content (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)

Violence: The first page of chapter 5, Kino strikes and kicks his wife, Juana.

Violence: Kino stabs a robber/intruder in the beginning of chapter 5.

Violence: In the end of chapter 6, Kino does a surprise attack on a group of bounty hunters. In a rage, he stabs and shoots the three men. No detailed gore but descriptions of killing, stabbing, and shooting the three men; premeditated killing.

Violence: At the end of the book, it is revealed Kino's son, Coyotito, had been shot by one of the bounty hunters. References to blood and the baby's 'head shot away.'

Book Reviews (1-2 link(s)) Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links

<https://www.common sense media.org/book-reviews/the-pearl>



<https://www.kirkusreviews.com/book-reviews/john-steinbeck/the-pearl-2/>

ABOUT THE CLASS

Rationale for the Literature Selection (In addition to standards): (To be completed by the teacher or team)

The Pearl is a classic American novel by Nobel Prize winning author John Steinbeck. The book is imbued with a strong moral conflict and complex characters; it reveals multiple themes and thought-provoking questions all students can connect to and ask themselves. The book is rich with literary techniques (symbolism, metaphor, diction, characterization, etc) and cultural history of America, Baja California, and native Americans. The book is apt for analysis with the critical literary lenses and also pairs well with the new framework for the CP English classes, specifically identity and systems.

The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards *only* and abbreviations of the main ideas of the priority standards) [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)

1. RL.9-10.3 Analyze complex characters
2. RL.9-10.5 Analyze an author's choices concerning how to structure a text

ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (1-2 texts, title/author; Note: these texts must also have lit. reviews forms associated with their selection)

1. A Raisin in the Sun, Lorraine Hansberry
- 2.



SIGNATURES (embedded jpegs of authentic signatures are fine OR
download/print form and obtain traditional signatures)

Teacher: *John Chen* Date: 7/16/22

Department Chair: *Erin Chen* Date: 7/20/22

Building Principal: *John Chen* Date: 8/11/22

District Curriculum Administrator: *YOD* Date: 8/21/22