HIGH SCHOOL | BLUE VALLEY DISTRICT NOVEL RATIONALE

_Hiroshima_ by John Hersey

English Language Arts, 10th Grade

**WHAT’S THE STORY?**

This work of nonfiction traces six survivors (two doctors, two women, and two religious men) of the atomic bomb dropped by the United States on the city of Hiroshima to end WWII. Hersey approaches his material through the objective eye of a journalist. In Chapter V, “The Aftermath,” Hersey re-examines the survivors’ lives 40 years later. The edition used includes Hersey’s postscript added in 1985.

**CONNECTIONS TO CURRICULUM**

The following are some, but not all, of the connections to curriculum for this novel.

- **Unit 3: Seeking Knowledge**
  - Essential Question: “How and where do I find knowledge outside of my own experience? How do I incorporate this knowledge into future inquiry?”

**KEY STANDARDS ADDRESSED**

- Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums, determining which details are emphasized in each account. RI.10.7
- Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading. RI.10.8
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. RL.10.4
- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content. W.10.2
- Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. W.10.3
- Use technology, including the internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products, taking advantage of technology’s capacity to link to other information and to display information flexibly and dynamically. W.10.6
- Gather relevant information from multiple authoritative print and digital sources, using advanced searches effectively; assess the usefulness of each source in answering the research question; integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, avoiding plagiarism and following a standard...
format for citation. W.10.8

- Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each source. SL.10.2
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade 10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies. RL.10.11