

**Text for Today:** My Antonia

**Unit:**  
“The Power of Storytelling”

**Chapter:**  
“Crisis and Conflict”

**Objective:**

The student will be able to define characterization, explain Cather’s vision of a perfect heroine, describe Antonia’s character, and identify the symbolism of dark vs. light in the novel. The student will also be able to answer numerous questions on “The Power of Storytelling” unit in Jeopardy form.

**Procedure:**

1. Define characterization and explain it’s importance in the novel.
2. Read an interview with Willa Cather where she describes how she wants Antonia to be received by her audience.
3. Give notes on Antonia’s character: embraces her heritage, always the optimist, a very realistic character, very much tied to the land.
4. Discuss Antonia’s coloring.
5. Describe the symbolism of a person having dark or light hair.
6. Read and discuss many examples of Antonia’s character from the novel.
7. Divide the class into two or three teams.
8. Draw a Jeopardy game board on the chalkboard.
9. Have a team choose a category.
10. Read the answer.
11. Watch for the first student to stand with the response.
12. Have the first student to stand recite the answer.
13. Give point value if the answer is correct.
14. Have the student choose the next category.
15. Continue until final Jeopardy.
16. Have students risk game points on a particular final Jeopardy category.
17. Give answer. The winner is based on game points.
18. Have students pick extra credit points out of the “Cookie Jar.”

**Assessment:**

Students will be tested on all objectives. They may also choose to write their reactions on the characterization of Antonia or Cather’s description of a heroine. Each reaction counts as a quiz grade.

**Materials (in addition to usual AV equipment):**

*My Antonia*, “Cookie Jar,” and Jeopardy preparation materials.

**Homework Due Today:**

Complete *My Antonia* (should have been read for summer reading). Continue reading *To Kill a Mockingbird*.