



Hall of Injustice, Part 2

Guided Inquiry Research

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Grade Level	8th – 9th Grade	Time Frame	4-5 class period(s)
Subject	English/Language Arts, Social Studies	Duration	200 minutes
Course	Composition, Oklahoma History		

Essential Question

How does remembering historical events impact the present? What are you curious about regarding the Tulsa Race Massacre (1921) or its impact on modern-day Tulsa, Oklahoma?

Summary

This lesson builds on the inquiry questions that students developed in the lesson "Hall of Injustice, Part 1." Students will use their inquiry questions based on the Tulsa Race Massacre to write an informative research paper, focusing on how remembering history impacts the present. Students will explore different articles, books, photos, and audio archives related to the Tulsa Race Massacre, and they will compare these various memories of the event. By the end of the lesson, students will have made a connection between the historical event and the present context.

Snapshot

Engage

Students respond to images and a video regarding the similarities and differences between the labels "riot" and "massacre."

Explore

Students explore artifacts related to the Tulsa Race Massacre in order to solidify their understanding of the event.

Explain

Students research an inquiry question of their choice regarding events surrounding the Tulsa Race Massacre, and then write an informative essay.

Extend

Students create research posters inspired by street art and share them with a small group and display.

Evaluate

Students submit the following for evaluation: Labels Impact History; Resource Exploration; Inquiry Log; "Tell Me All About It" Informative Essay with Bibliography; and Hall of Injustice Graffiti Research Poster.

Materials

- Lesson Slides (attached)
- Labels Impact History handouts (attached; one per student)
- Resource Exploration handouts (attached; one per student)
- Resource Choice Board (attached; provide students link to digital version)
- Research question note cards (optional; from Hall of Justice, Part 1)
- Inquiry Log handouts (attached; one per student)
- Chart paper (one piece per student) and markers or access to a digital platform for creating research posters
- Street Art Slides document (attached)
- Computers
- Headphones (optional)
- Pencils
- Notebook paper

Engage

Teacher's Note: Addressing Sensitive Subject Matter

Please note the attached **Parent Letter**. Due to the nature of the historical events discussed in this lesson, please consider sending the letter home to your students' parents 2-3 weeks before the start of the lesson (if you have not done so already), allowing time to answer questions regarding the material. It is also important to discuss the nature of the historical event and some of the sensitive subject matter the lesson contains with your students.

Use the attached **Lesson Slides** to guide the lesson. Display slide 2, showing the essential questions, and read them aloud to begin the lesson.

Display slide 3. Pass out copies of the Labels Impact History handout (or distribute the [digital version](#)). Using the [Caption This](#) strategy and the directions from the Labels Impact History handout, invite students to examine two depictions of the events of 1921 in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Direct students to the images on the first page of their handouts. Ask students to look closely at the images, and, for each image, write a caption describing what is happening or what the image represents.

When students are finished writing, have them share their captions with an [Elbow Partner](#).

Display slide 4. With their Elbow Partners or in groups of four, have students briefly brainstorm the similarities and differences between the labels "riot" and "massacre." Students can take notes about the discussion on their handouts. Have one representative from each group share out a summary of the group's discussion with the class.

Read the definitions of "riot" and "massacre" on slide 5, and then return to the images on slide 3. Ask students the question, "Would you categorize each image as a 'riot' or a 'massacre'?" Students should answer individually on page 2 of their handouts, writing down which label they chose and justifying their answers with the definitions and the details from the images.

Display slide 6. Show the video [The Tulsa Race Massacre: Then and Now](#).

Embedded video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhoAGJUDEvc>

At the conclusion of the video, discuss the shift from the label "Tulsa Race Riot" to "Tulsa Race Massacre" as a class.

Display slide 7. Using the [How I Know It](#) strategy, ask students to return to their handouts to answer the following questions, also shown on the second page of the handout:

- How do the speakers refer to the event—as a riot or as a massacre?
- Based on what you know at this time, would you call the event in Tulsa a riot or a massacre?

Drawing a diagram as instructed on the handout, students should write the answer to the questions in the circle, and write where they found their information in the space outside the circle.

Explore

Display slide 8. Pass out copies of the **Resource Exploration** handout, and provide students with digital access to the Resource Choice Board so that they can visit the various links. Invite students to work with a partner to explore one resource from each of the four categories (Articles, Videos, Photo Collections, and Audio). You may want to supply headphones or earbuds for students to listen to the provided video and audio files or allow students to use their own. Ask students to use the 5Ws from the [5W Cube](#) strategy to answer questions for each resource. Tell students that answers can be in the form of brief bullet points rather than complete sentences.

Teacher's Note: Time Modification

If time is a factor, consider having students roll a die for each resource they review and answer only one of the 5W questions, based on the numbers listed on slide 8. For example, if they were reading an article and rolled a five, they would answer the question "Why is this information important?" for that article.

Explain

Display slide 9. Now, ask students to choose an inquiry-based research question related to the Tulsa Race Massacre to investigate in more detail. They can choose one of the questions that they developed during the lesson [Hall of Injustice, Part 1](#), drawing from their previously-created Research Question Notecards, or they can write a new question. For example, they might choose to write a question related to a subject that interests them, such as math, science, or art. Give students time to make their selections and/or write new research questions.

Teacher's Note: Research Questions

If students did not complete Hall of Injustice: Part 1, you can take them through the Extend portion of that lesson to create their Inquiry-Based Research questions.

Example Research Questions

Example questions might include, for example, **art**: How does the artwork in Tulsa reflect the events of the massacre, and how does art help people remember and heal? **Math**: What was Black Wall Street, and how did the massacre affect the economy of Greenwood? **Science**: What types of instruments were used to discover the possible mass graves, and where are the archaeologists at in the process of digging? **Social Studies/History**: How did the influence of the KKK play a role in the events surrounding the Tulsa Race Massacre?

Display **slide 10** and pass out copies of the **Inquiry Log** handout. Ask students to complete the Inquiry Log with information from 3–5 sources as they research their questions. Then, display slide 11, and familiarize students with the [A-CLAP](#) strategy. Explain to students that they can use this strategy as they are researching to evaluate the validity of the resources that they find.

Once you have reviewed the instructions with them, give students sufficient time to complete their research.

When students have information from at least 3–5 resources recorded on the Inquiry Log, they are ready to write a thesis statement and begin their essay. Display slide 12 and show students the brief video [Writing an Effective Thesis Statement](#).

Embedded video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4sx42_C10zw

Display slide 13. Invite students to use their inquiry questions to write a thesis statement for an informative essay regarding their chosen topic. Instruct students to follow these steps to write their thesis statements:

1. Reread their chosen inquiry question.
2. Decide on a topic.
3. Construct a claim.
4. Determine the main points of the informative essay.
5. Write the thesis statement. The statement should be one sentence and include the topic, claim, and specific points.

Teacher's Note: Additional Guidance

If your students need more assistance with writing thesis statements, watch the video [How to Write a Thesis Statement](#) on slide 14.

After you've given students time to write their thesis statements, introduce the guidelines for writing their "Tell Me About It" informative essays, which are outlined on slide 15. Each essay should include a thesis statement, a clearly explained answer to their inquiry question, both direct and indirect quotes from the sources the student identified, and a connection to current events. Each essay should also include an introductory paragraph, 2–3 body paragraphs, a concluding paragraph, and a Works Cited page.

Teacher's Note: Essay Essentials

Depending on your students' experience with writing essays, you might need to review topics such as the hook, thesis statement placement, topic sentences for body paragraphs, paragraph length, and conclusion paragraphs.

Teacher's Note: Rubrics

Use the [rubric for Common Core informative essays](#) or create one that works best for you and your students. You can use a tool such as the [Rubric Maker](#) to create your own.

Teacher's Note: Works Cited

To help students with building their Works Cited pages, consider giving them the option of using an online citation generator such as [Easy Bib](#).

Provide students with time to compose their essays in class, or assign them as homework.

Extend

Engage students in a discussion about street art in preparation to create a Research Poster inspired by street art. In understanding the message behind street art, students can understand how to communicate a powerful message about what they've learned through this lesson and in their research about the Tulsa Race Massacre.

Present the attached Street Art Slides to the class. After viewing the street art, display slide 16, and use the [Commit and Toss](#) strategy to discuss the question, "**What is the purpose of street art?**" Follow the instructions below for the Commit and Toss activity:

1. Give students a minute or two to write an answer to this question on a piece of paper.
2. Instruct students to crumple up their answers and toss them across the room.
3. Have each student pick up a piece of paper that landed nearby.
4. One by one, have students read the answers on the papers that they picked up.
5. Discuss the answers as a class in order to come to a consensus regarding the definition of street art.

Display slide 17 and discuss the street art used to honor Black Wall Street. Ask students to look closely and identify images that would help people remember the events before, during, and after the massacre.

Display slide 18. Invite students to create street art [Research Posters](#). Ask them to focus on the four questions below (the first three of which are suggested by [NYU Libraries](#)) as they consider how to showcase what they have learned during their personal research:

1. What did you find in your research that was most important, interesting, or astounding?
2. How might you visually share your research?
3. How might you incorporate charts, graphs, photos, or images?
4. What do you hope others who view your art will take away from it?

Display slide 19. Show the sample poster, and walk through the components that students need to include in their own posters.

Display slide 20, and discuss the poster format and timeline. Remind students that this poster is their own creative expression of their learning. Students can choose to use traditional art supplies (butcher paper, chalk, markers, paint, colored pencils) to create their posters (consider providing large butcher paper with bricks drawn on it), or students can complete their posters using a digital tool, such as [Canva](#).

Display slide 21. Explain the [Elevator Speech](#) strategy, and then give each student a few minutes to prepare their own Elevator Speech to share their Research Posters (handmade or Canva posters). Ask students to explain in their speeches the components of the poster, and to include a one-sentence statement as to why their poster has the most powerful message.

Organize students into groups of four. Invite students to take turns presenting their elevator speeches, and then ask groups to discuss and choose the poster they consider to be the most powerful. Ask one representative from each group to present this poster to the entire class.

Teacher's Note: Choosing A Presenter

The presenter does not have to be the person who created the most powerful poster. Group members can choose the person whom they would prefer to present.

Teacher's Note: Sharing Students' Work

The research posters can be shared with your school in a variety of ways. One way is to designate a "Hall of Injustice" inside the school where you display the Research Posters (handcrafted or downloaded and printed from Canva). Another way is to display a slide show of digital posters (or photos of handcrafted posters) on hallway televisions. Digital posters can also be uploaded to [Padlet](#), where other students can make comments as they view the different posters. Sharing students' work helps the entire school community engage in learning along with the students in your classes.

Evaluate

Each of the following can be turned in to serve as an evaluation for this lesson:

- Labels Impact History handout
- Resource Exploration handout
- Inquiry Log
- "Tell Me All About It" informative essay with Works Cited page
- Hall of Injustice street art Research Poster

Resources

- Andrew. (2013, April 21). How to write a thesis for beginners. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wCzuAMVmIz8>
- dik rowland. (2010, September 21). BLACK WALL STREET SURVIVOR; Eldoris McCondichi. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lx62joRN-YU>. Accessed 22 Jul. 2020.
- IParadigms, LLC. (2012). Common core state standards writing rubrics: Grades 9-10. Turnitin. http://gncufsdclarkacademy.ss8.sharpschool.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_774668/File/For%20Staff/Rubrics/Common_Core_Rubrics_Gr_9_10.pdf
- K20 Center. (n.d.). 5W cube. Strategies. <https://learn.k20center.ou.edu/strategy/7b4de59085f566aa097814b8c0035cca>
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- Pejac. (2014). The World is Going Down the Drain.[Photograph].Theculturetrip.com.<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/united-kingdom/articles/street-art-and-society-9-murals-that-speak-powerful-truths/>
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- Tulsa Public Schools. (2018, June 1). The Tulsa race massacre; Then and now. [Video]. YouTube. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GhoAGJUDEvc>