

	<p>Theme: Using Social Media and Microblogging Tools to Explore Themes in Literature</p>
<p>Objective</p>	<p>Students will determine the theme of a given piece of literature. They will cite examples to show how they support the overall theme. They will discuss how supporting passages help to develop the overall theme of the piece.</p>
<p>Students</p>	<p>This activity is intended for high school students.</p>
<p>Materials</p>	<p>This project requires a computer with internet access. Students will also need access to a word processing application. For the lecture portion, a Smart Board or a projector with white screen would be ideal. Access to the internet is necessary for the lecture portion as well.</p>
<p>Procedure</p>	<p>The students will be given a remedial presentation on theme. They will read several short passages and watch a few short video clips as a class. The teacher will lead a class discussion where the students pick out the theme of the passages and video clips. Dissenting opinions will be encouraged, and the students will back up their viewpoints on theme with evidence from the passages and clips.</p> <p>The teacher will give an interactive presentation on Plurk: what it is, how it is used, what some of its real world applications are, who uses it, etc. The teacher will then give an overview of the assignment and answer student questions.</p>
<p>Application</p>	<p>Students will be given time to look around Plurk's main site. They will be allowed to create their own account, which will be useful for a future lesson (and for extra credit). Students are to look through the main page and select 5 updates, all from different users, that are interesting to them. Content</p>

	<p>must be appropriate and profanity free. Students will follow the users who made the 5 updates that were interesting to them. The students will browse through the users' prior updates to get a sense of what the user is like. After reading through many of the user's updates, the student will select the theme that he or she thinks most closely represents the user's page. The student will then select 5-10 updates that support their idea of what the theme of the user's page is. The student will then write a short narrative explaining how he or she came to the conclusion of what theme was appropriate. He or she will use the 5-10 updates as evidence to support the chosen theme.</p>
Evaluation	<p>Students will be evaluated on the clarity of the narrative, including spelling and grammar. Students must have at least 5 updates to support the selected theme for each user (5 users total). Students must also provide the original 5 updates that led them to each user.</p> <p>Students may be awarded extra credit for reaching out to one of the selected users and beginning a discussion on theme or on the contents of any update that was chosen.</p>