

Analyzing Biographies of Veterans Buried in the Santa Fe National Cemetery
Designed for advanced readers
Grades 9-12 Secondary Lesson Plan

Time: One 50 or 60 minute class period

Objectives:

- To understand the experiences and contributions of veterans buried in the Santa Fe National Cemetery.
- To develop research and analysis skills by examining biographical articles from The Santa Fe New Mexican.
- To understand the significance of veterans' lives and their impact on the community.

Materials:

- Copies of the three biographical articles from The Santa Fe New Mexican for each student or a classroom set
 - [#1 - https://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/the-captain-worked-64-years-at-la-fonda/article_43ad2ac4-8dee-11ed-8aec-13f10f9243a4.html](https://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/the-captain-worked-64-years-at-la-fonda/article_43ad2ac4-8dee-11ed-8aec-13f10f9243a4.html)
 - [#2 - https://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/writer-teacher-remembered-for-pioneering-spirit/article_12a4cde0-98e5-11ed-8470-7b24a6eefd09.html](https://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/writer-teacher-remembered-for-pioneering-spirit/article_12a4cde0-98e5-11ed-8470-7b24a6eefd09.html)
 - [#3 - https://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/ex-city-engineer-helped-design-st-francis-drive-move-train-to-salvador-perez-park/article_c55ab64c-af67-11ec-bdcd-6318d86dbad9.html](https://www.santafenewmexican.com/news/local_news/ex-city-engineer-helped-design-st-francis-drive-move-train-to-salvador-perez-park/article_c55ab64c-af67-11ec-bdcd-6318d86dbad9.html)
- Whiteboard/Chalkboard
- Markers/Chalk

Procedure:

Introduction (10 minutes):

- Ask students if they have ever visited a national cemetery or know about the Santa Fe National Cemetery.
- Explain that in this lesson, they will be analyzing biographical articles of veterans buried in the Santa Fe National Cemetery.
- Provide a brief overview of the biographical articles and the veterans they feature.
- Have students make predictions about what they might learn from reading the articles.

Reading (30 minutes):

- Distribute the biographical articles to students and have them read the articles in small groups or individually.

- Provide students with a set of questions to guide their reading and analysis of the articles.
 - Which conflict did they serve in, and which branch of the military?
 - How did the military change the course of their life?
 - What were they remembered for in their life following their time in the military?

Analysis (10 minutes):

- Have students share their findings with the class.
- Encourage students to compare and contrast the experiences and contributions of the veterans featured in the articles.

Conclusion (10 minutes):

- Did the students' predictions from the pre-reading activity match what they read? How were they the same and how were they different?
- Emphasize the importance of understanding the experiences and contributions of veterans and how it contributes to informed citizenship and a broader understanding of service.