

Exemp Kelly D

Tech lesson for 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period (*Creating a blog*)

K. DeNicola

Period 2 (American Civics)

Name of lesson: "Norman Rockwell, Freedom of Speech-Know it When You See it"

Essential Question: How and why are civil liberties an important component of citizenship?

Objective: Identify the five freedoms in the First Amendment and be able to give to communicate an example of each in daily/community life, state community and the national community

Lesson: Before discussing Norman Rockwell's painting, students study it individually and write down their answers to the questions on the handout. Discussion of painting to follow and explanation of the "five freedoms."

Next, students will find an article from a local/state/national news service and write about the First Amendment in action. Students determine which part of the First Amendment the article pertains to and explains it to the class.

Finally, students have the opportunity to place themselves in the painting, while creatively responding to writing prompts as a news reporter. Students pretend they are reporters covering the meeting shown in the painting. They will each make up a blog entry about the town meeting and what was said. They will need to hypothesize what is being said at the meeting from the people in the painting and their expressions. For the blog, students will answer questions from the handout. Students will then add their own opinions/comments to (3 other students' blogs). The teacher will then view each blog to determine whether the story/information about the town meeting in the painting is an appropriate and pertinent entry for the assignment.

**How to create a blog:** (chronological conversation organized as a main post followed by comments, with each new post being a new conversation)

Sign on to [www.blogger.com](http://www.blogger.com) and then click on "create a blog" link.

You'll be directed to a screen that asks you to create a Google Account if you don't have one. When you have completed the form, click "Continue." Next, name your blog and complete the form and click "continue." You can then choose a template for the blog's appearance, then click, "continue." You are to use the handout as a guideline for what to include in your blog. Finally, click the "start posting" link to begin posting comments.