PROHUMAN FOUNDATION

PROHUMAN CURRICULUM - GRADE 3

OVERVIEW OF UNITS:

Unit 1	September	Optimism
Unit 2	October	Grit
Unit 3	November	Gratitude
Unit 4	December	Curiosity
Unit 5	January	Courage
Unit 6	February	Compassion
Unit 7	March	Fairness
Unit 8	April	Understanding
Unit 9	May	Humanity

UNIT 9: HUMANITY

LESSON 3: WRITING AN OPINION PIECE ABOUT HUMANITY

SUMMARY:

The Prohuman Grade 3 curriculum is aligned to two sets of standards: Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts and Character and Social Emotional Development (CSED) National Guidelines. The full collection of units introduces all nine of the prohuman character strengths: optimism, grit, gratitude, curiosity, courage, compassion, fairness, understanding, and humanity.

In Unit 9, Lesson 3, “Writing an Opinion Piece About Humanity,” students will write an opinion piece in which they introduce the topic they are writing about, state an opinion, create an organizational structure that lists reasons, use linking words and phrases, and provide a concluding statement or section.

SUGGESTED TIME: 20 minutes

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RELATED SUBJECT: English Language Arts

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Demonstrate comprehension of the word humanity
- Write an opinion piece that introduces the topic, states an opinion, creates an organizational structure that lists reasons, uses linking words and phrases, and provides a concluding statement or section.
- Demonstrate understanding of standard English sentence structure and grammar

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

- Prohuman Grade 3 Unit 9 Worksheet 3: Writing an Opinion Piece About Humanity

VOCABULARY:

Humanity: I see that every person is special. People are more alike than unalike. We all need to work together to make our lives better.

ELA COMMON CORE STANDARDS MET

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1	Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1.A	Introduce the topic or text they are writing about, state an opinion, and create an organizational structure that lists reasons.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1.B	Provide reasons that support the opinion.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1.C	Use linking words and phrases (e.g., *because*, *therefore*, *since*, *for example*) to connect opinion and reasons.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1.D	Provide a concluding statement or section.	✔

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CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.4	With guidance and support from adults, produce writing in which the development and organization are appropriate to task and purpose.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.C	Use abstract nouns (e.g., *childhood*).	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.D	Form and use regular and irregular verbs.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.F	Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.H	Use coordinating and subordinating conjunctions.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.1.I	Produce simple, compound, and complex sentences.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.2	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.2.E	Use conventional spelling for high-frequency and other studied words and for adding suffixes to base words (e.g., sitting, smiled, cries, happiness).	✔
CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.L.3.3	Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.	✔

CHARACTER AND SOCIAL EMOTIONAL (CSED) NATIONAL STANDARDS MET

Moral Character A4	Offer examples of caring and compassionate behaviors (at home, in school, in the community)	✔
Moral Character B4	Provide an example of a friend or role model who demonstrates caring and compassion	✔

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Civic Character A4	Explain why it is important for everyone to serve and contribute to their family, school, community, nation, globally	✔
Civic Character B6	Describe how a role model volunteers and contributes to the common good	✔
Interpersonal/ Relationship Skills A2	Recognize the needs of others and how those needs may differ from your own	✔
Interpersonal/ Relationship Skills A7	Give and receive constructive feedback to classmates and peers	✔
Social-Awareness A4	Explain a time when you put yourself in "someone else's shoes" in order to understand their perspective and point of view	✔
Social-Awareness A5	Explain what empathy means (e.g., the ability to sympathetically understand and personally identify with the emotional states, needs and feelings of others)	✔

LESSON PROCEDURE

Today we will write an opinion piece about what you think is the best way to show humanity. An opinion piece does five things.

1.) First, it introduces the topic you are writing about.
2.) Second, it states your opinion.
3.) Third, it supplies reasons that support your opinion.
4.) Fourth, it uses linking words (e.g., because, and, also) to connect opinion and reasons.
5.) Finally, it provides a concluding statement or section.
6.) Here is an example of an opinion piece about humanity. Write on the board:

Topic: There are many different ways that we can show humanity.

Opinion: I think the best way to show humanity is by saying

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nice things about others. I think this for three main reasons.

Reason 1: First, saying nice things about others makes them happy.

Reason 2: Second, saying nice things about others makes them feel special.

Reason 3: Third, saying nice things about others makes them feel important.

Closure: It is important to show humanity. In my opinion, the best way we can do that is by saying nice things to others.

7.) Now each student will write their opinion piece on their worksheet.

NOTE: Collect and keep the worksheet on the following page for the next day's lesson in which students will share their opinion pieces with a partner.

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GRADE 3 UNIT 9 WORKSHEET 3: WRITING AN OPINION PIECE ABOUT HUMANITY

Humanity: I see that every person is special. People are more alike than unalike. We all need to work together to make our lives better.

ACTIVITY: Write an opinion piece about the best way you can show humanity.

Topic:

Opinion:

Reason 1:

Reason 2:

Reason 3:

Closure:

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