

## Observe & Analyze 2

**Jennifer Szlag, Language & Communications Instructor** [00:00:00] So please turn to the third page of your syllabus so we can review the exam schedule. The exams give you the opportunity to apply what you've learned through our study of English literature. Every week, we'll be taking a multiple-choice quiz so you can keep track of how well you're understanding the novels that we're studying. The quizzes are focused on comprehension questions, but doing well on them will set you up to do well on the exams. The exams just go that extra step so you really can apply the content knowledge that you've learned here. Lola?

**Lola, Student** [00:00:31] Do you have any practice exams that we can use to study?

**Jennifer Szlag** [00:00:34] I don't give out practice exams, but the quizzes help you know if you've properly understood the basic content. I believe the exams are testing how well you've mastered our course learning goals, so I want it to be a new experience for you when you see those questions. At the same time, it will probably relieve any testing anxiety that you may have knowing that you can use the final to replace one exam score. If you flip to the next page on the syllabus, you can see the grading policy. So because you can replace one grade with the final, you know that you if you have some trouble on the first exam or an exam along the way, you have a chance to make it up later in the semester. Any questions on the exam scheduling? Okay, then let's move forward. Although we're just getting to know each other, I like to have students to complete a short writing assessment based on the introductory reading you did. Before you start to worry, know that this assessment has no bearing on your final grade. So don't worry. It's basically a readiness assessment that allows me to see your basic skills in writing and your comprehension of literature. I'll use the results to help plan the course and you can use the results to help show you areas where you may need to improve. I'm going to give you 20 minutes to complete this. Please do your best, but again, it's nothing to worry about. Okay, we're out of time, so please leave your paper on my desk on your way out and I'll see you next class.

**Student** [00:02:42] Hi, do you have a minute?

**Jennifer Szlag** [00:02:43] Yeah, yeah, what's your question?

**Student** [00:02:44] Thanks. Yeah, I just wanted to ask you something about this assignment. Just going through this, I'm pretty sure I didn't even answer the questions and I honestly didn't understand what the questions were asking for. So I know that this is a readiness assessment, so I'm worried that maybe I might be behind some of the other students and I'm afraid I won't be able to catch up. Is there anything that I can, I can do to, to catch up, like any online tutorials, any practice reading questions that I can start using now so I can stay ahead? I'm just really worried about falling behind before the semester even starts.

**Jennifer Szlag** [00:03:23] Yeah. Well, I can try and definitely look up some resources for you. Off the top of my head, I can't really think of any, but I usually recommend focusing on the assignments on the syllabus and that gives you a better start. But let me look over your work. Let me review your work and then we'll talk after that.

**Student** [00:03:37] Okay.

**Jennifer Szlag** [00:03:38] All right.

**Student** [00:03:38] Thanks, I appreciate it.

**Jennifer Szlag** [00:03:39] You're welcome.

**Student** [00:03:40] Bye.