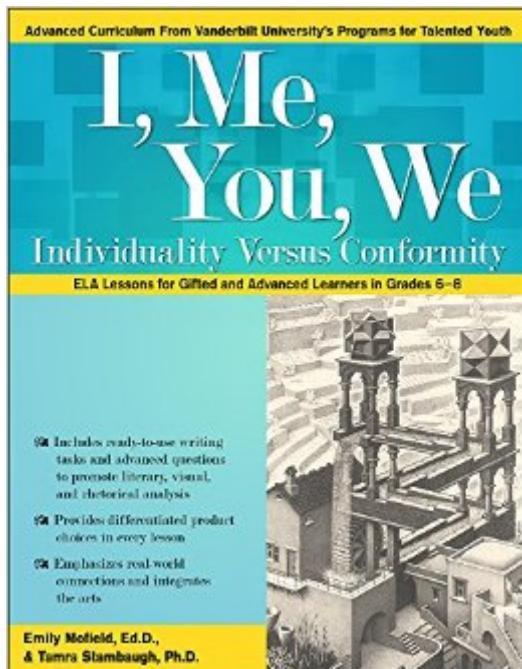


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# I, Me, You, We: Individuality Versus Conformity: Common Core ELA Lessons For Gifted And Advanced Learners In Grades 6-8



## **Synopsis**

In I, You, Me, We: Individuality Versus Conformity, students explore essential questions such as How does our environment shape our identity? What are the consequences of conforming to a group? When does social conformity go too far? This unit, developed by Vanderbilt University's Programs for Talented Youth and aligned to the Common Core State Standards (CCSS), includes a major emphasis on rigorous evidence-based discourse through the study of common themes across rich, challenging non-fiction and fictional texts. The unit guides students to examine the fine line of individuality vs. conformity through the related concepts of belongingness, community, civil disobedience, questioning the status quo, and self-reliance by engaging in creative activities, Socratic Seminars, literary analyses, and debates. Lessons include close-readings with text-dependent questions, choice-based differentiated products, rubrics, formative assessments, and ELA tasks that require students to analyze texts for rhetorical features, literary elements, and themes through argument, explanatory, and prose-constructed writing. The unit features short-stories from Kurt Vonnegut and Ray Bradbury, poetry from Emily Dickinson and Maya Angelou, art by M.C. Escher and Picasso, and primary source documents from Plato, Eleanor D. Roosevelt, William Bradford, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Henry David Thoreau.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Oh my goodness! I've only started to read through this book, but, so far, it's wonderful!It contains four units that focus on the tenets of individualism vs conformity. Each unit contains approx three

suggested texts. The book contains lessons that are aligned to Common Core (CCSS), utilizes fiction, historical documents, and artwork to help in the instruction of analysis. There are a pre and post test, as well as an analysis rubric, and a variety of graphic organizers. I can't wait to finish reading the book and see what types of prompts and classroom activities it includes. Definitely worth the purchase!(Some texts/ excerpts suggested include: "Civil Disobedience", "Harrison Bergeron", "Self Reliance" and "The Mayflower Compact". It is labeled for Grades 6-8 Gifted/ Advanced Learners, but when reading the CCSS standards on various units, they appear to be from the 9-10 band.)

Moefield and Stambaugh do an amazing job of selecting, preparing, and organizing core standards to meet the needs of high ability learners. They incorporate instructional practices that allow students to park on the "Taxonomic Highway" where they are continually immersed in the highest levels of thinking. In addition, the material design is very user-friendly for teachers and requires minimal preparation to incorporate it into their existing English Language Arts (ELA) Program. Cheryl Griggs, Ed. S.

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