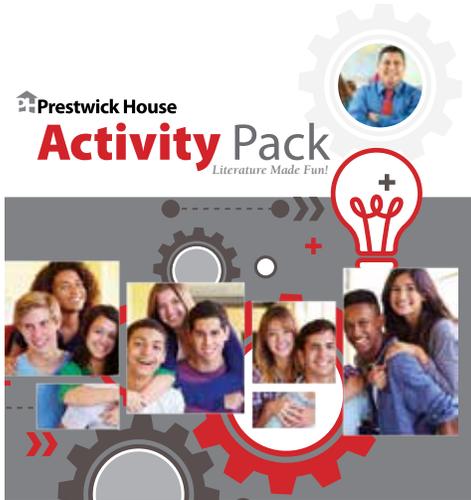




Prestwick House
Activity Pack™

Sample



Click here
to learn more
about this
Activity Pack!



Click here
to find more
Classroom Resources
for this title!



Prestwick House

More from Prestwick House

Literature

Literary Touchstone Classics
Literature Teaching Units

Grammar and Writing

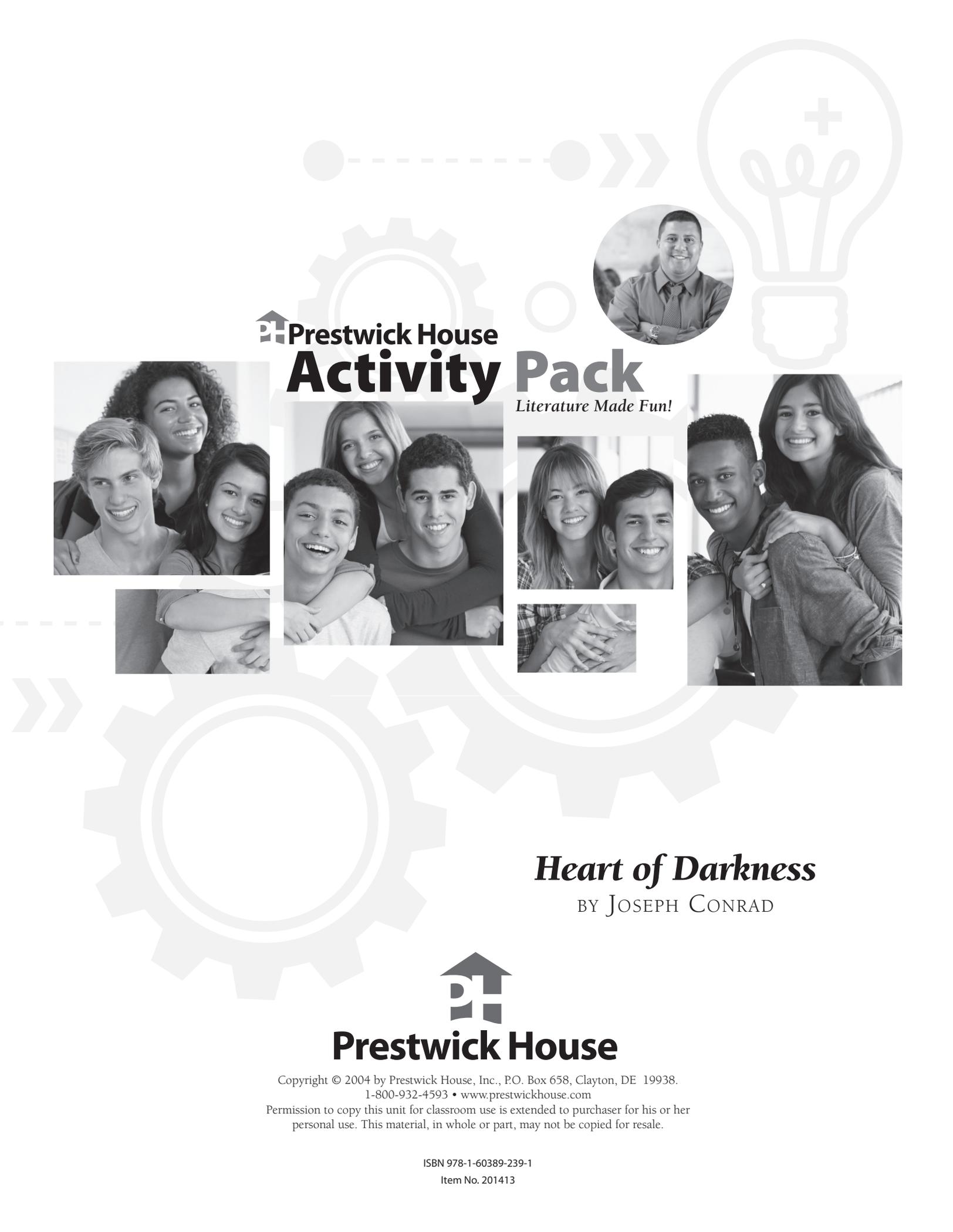
College and Career Readiness: Writing
Grammar for Writing

Vocabulary

Vocabulary Power Plus
Vocabulary from Latin and Greek Roots

Reading

Reading Informational Texts
Reading Literature



 **Prestwick House**
Activity Pack
Literature Made Fun!



Heart of Darkness
BY JOSEPH CONRAD



Prestwick House

Copyright © 2004 by Prestwick House, Inc., P.O. Box 658, Clayton, DE 19938.
1-800-932-4593 • www.prestwickhouse.com
Permission to copy this unit for classroom use is extended to purchaser for his or her personal use. This material, in whole or part, may not be copied for resale.

ISBN 978-1-60389-239-1
Item No. 201413

Table of Contents

Pre-Reading

Author's Resume	4
Research and Presentation.....	10
Anticipation and Persuasion	14

Chapters 1 – 3

Alternative Readers' Theatre.....	18
Writing Diary Entries	22
Plot Review: Round-Robin Reading Check.....	24

Chapter 1

An Illustrated Summary	28
Context Clues: Magic Squares.....	30
Characterization: Choosing Character Traits	36
Analyzing the Text.....	38
Frame Story	42
Identifying Style	46
Reading Check: Crossword Puzzle.....	58

Chapter 2

Art: Creating a Collage	60
Identifying Literary Devices	62
Identifying Literary Devices in <i>Heart of Darkness</i>	66
Writing Literary Devices.....	78
Characterization: An Interview	86
Postcards.....	88
Symbolism: Identifying Symbolism in <i>Heart of Darkness</i>	90
Reading Check: Explaining Quotations	94

Chapter 3

Writing a Will	98
Characterization: Spidergrams	100
Identifying Motifs, Thematic Concepts, and Themes in <i>Heart of Darkness</i>	110
Theme: A Literary Analysis	114
Theme: Essay Revision	116
Reading Check: Plot Events	118

Wrap-Up

Independent Project	120
Book Review	124

Appendices

Terms and Definitions	126
Dramatization of Scenes in the Novel	130
Directions for Interviews	131
Newspaper	132
Outline.....	134
Small Group Learning	135
Procedures for Small Group Work	137
Small Group Evaluation Sheet.....	138
Student Roles in Group Discussions	139

All references come from the Prestwick House Literary Touchstone Press® edition of *Heart of Darkness*, copyright 2004.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Pre-Reading

Author's Resume

Objectives: Understanding an author's motivation for writing a literary text
Writing a resume
Researching biographical information using electronic and print materials

Activity

Joseph Conrad, born Teodor Jozef Konrad Korzeniowski, earned his living as a seaman and author. He spent more than twenty-five years of his life as a sailor. When he was a child, he dreamed of sailing to the Congo. By realizing this dream and sailing around the world, he gained knowledge and experiences to change careers and become a writer. In the second half of his lifetime, he wrote of his sailing experiences in his novels, which were quite successful. An orphan who was obsessed with money, he led an intriguing life participating in gambling, gun smuggling, and other criminal activities.

Research the life and writings of Joseph Conrad using resources in the library and on the Internet. Make notes on the following information:

- Educational background
- Career
- Skills
- Other writings
- Recognition and awards

Then, compile the information to create a resume for Joseph Conrad. Use the Sample Resume that follows as a model.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapters 1 – 3

Writing Diary Entries

Objectives: Composing a series of diary entries for a character
Inferring character traits through dialogue and narration
Understanding a character's thoughts, actions, and motivations

Activity

Joseph Conrad kept a journal and wrote many letters during his years at sea. He later used these journal entries to remember specific events in his travels, which he used as events in his various writings.

Your assignment is to create a journal or diary for Marlow. You will compose at least 8 dated entries based on his journey to the Congo. Pretend you are Marlow and use first person point of view. You will comment on the major events of the plot and **MUST** comment on the following:

- Any meeting Marlow has with other characters
- Any changes in Marlow's character, especially psychological changes
- Any important event in the novella
- Marlow's relationship with other characters
- Marlow's thoughts about Kurtz
- Marlow's theories about colonialism and imperialism

Begin creating your dates in the late 1800s (such as 1875 – 1890). Be sure to mention other characters in each diary entry, if possible, and remember to pretend you are Marlow and are experiencing the trip to the Congo. Here is a sample journal entry for him based on the events in Chapter 1:

May 12, 1882

Today, I went to the Company's office to sign my employment contract. I had no trouble locating the office; it was the biggest building in town. I found two women knitting black wool at the entrance. The slim woman showed me to the waiting room where I examined a colorful map that showed various areas of the world. I became excited when I found the yellow area where I was going. The river was so fascinating; it looked like a deadly snake and beckoned me to it. A doctor then examined me, which was a puzzling encounter. He measured my pulse and skull size and remarked that he measures everyone who leaves for the Congo. I found it strange, however, that he said he never got a chance to measure each person's skull when they returned. Why would he go to the trouble to measure everyone's skulls when they left but not when they returned? What's the point? He also talked about psychological changes and madness, which really irritated me. Why did he think this was his business?

Try to write in the style in which Marlow speaks in the novella. Revise for grammatical errors. Be creative!

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 2

Characterization: An Interview

- Objectives:** Identifying factors that influence the changes in a dynamic character
 Responding to literature by composing interview questions addressing the main character and writing his or her likely responses
 Working cooperatively to plan and/or carry through a group assignment
 Listening to understand the major points of a group's presentation

Activity

Pretend that you have the opportunity to interview Marlow after the death of the helmsman. In small groups, think of questions you would like to ask Marlow. Then, write Marlow's answer using first person point of view with the pronoun "I." Include the following three questions in your list and add 5 – 7 more questions of your own.

1. After the helmsman dies, why do you immediately change your socks and shoes instead of crying or mourning his death?

2. After you change your socks and shoes, you don't seem disappointed at the helmsman's death, yet you remark, "And by the way, I suppose Mr. Kurtz is dead as well by this time." What did you mean by this comment?

Ask Marlow more questions about anything you have read so far in the novel and formulate his answers. You will present your interview to your classmates. Prepare your presentation, choosing one of the following techniques:

- a one-on-one interview between a reporter and Marlow
- a news talk show with two or three interviewers and Marlow
- a newspaper article with a concise title and answers to the questions: who, what, when, why, where, and how
- an evening news report about the interview with Marlow

Name: _____

Date: _____

Chapter 3

Theme: A Literary Analysis

Objectives: Analyzing literature by writing an essay on theme
Composing an essay using correct grammar, usage, and mechanics
Writing in third person
Organizing writing to include a thesis statement, topic sentences, and supporting details
Citing evidence from a novella to support a thee
Using technology to create and organize an essay

Activity

Select a theme from *Heart of Darkness* from the previous Activity and write a multi-paragraph essay to support it. Here is a suggested format: Organize your essay to include an introduction, 3 body paragraphs, and a conclusion. In your introduction, briefly describe the text in general and present your chosen theme in the thesis statement. In each body paragraph, include quotations from the text to support your theme. For example, you can include quotes from Chapter 1 in your first body paragraph, quotes from Chapter 2 in your second body paragraph, and quotes from Chapter 3 in your third body paragraph. Finish your essay with a conclusion. Type your finished essay in a word processing program. Be sure to follow these guidelines when writing your essay:

- Use information from the previous Activity on theme.
- Include well-organized paragraphs.
- Include a thesis statement in your introduction.
- Choose a compelling title.
- Write in third-person point of view, using he, she, and other third person terminology.
- Cite and explain at least one incident from the text in each paragraph.
- Each paragraph must begin with a topic sentence.
- Each paragraph must contain supporting details.
- Include evidence from the novella in the form of quotations and paraphrased material.
- Quotes should not stand alone; incorporate them into your own sentences.
- Provide parenthetical citations for direct quotes.
- Restate the main ideas of your essay in the conclusion.
- Incorporate transitional words and phrases between paragraphs and ideas.
- Have a classmate help revise and proofread your essay before submitting it for grading.