**Subject area/course**: English/Language Arts

**Grade level/band**: 11

**Task source**: Center for Collaborative Education (CCE); Author: Stephen Goyette

**Hemingway and the Effect of the First World War**

# STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Task context**:

You are a journalist researching Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in veterans returning from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. In your research, you discover that PTSD has been known by many names (such as “shell shock” and “battle fatigue”) and has been recorded in wars for decades. In fact, you discover that Ernest Hemingway wrote short stories and novels on the subject. You decide to write a piece connecting Hemingway’s works to the modern research.

* 1. Read two of the three following Hemingway stories:
     1. “Soldier’s Home”,
     2. “In Another Country” OR
     3. “Old Man and the Bridge”
  2. Read one of the two articles:
     1. CNN article “Experts: Vets’ PTSD, violence a growing problem. <http://www.cnn.com/2012/01/17/us/veterans-violence>OR
     2. “Hemingway on War and Its Aftermath” by Thomas Putnam <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2006/spring/hemingway.html>
  3. Using direct quotations from the two Hemingway stories and the article you read, write a thesis-driven essay that explains how the soldier’s experience in war is reflected in the literature of the time period, including the short stories of Hemingway, poetry, and contemporary texts from modern-day war veterans. Be sure to answer these essential questions:
* What do these writings reveal about the experience of WWI?
* How do these two examples of short fiction communicate the hidden trauma of the experience of war?
  1. Peer edit, using the rubric to give and receive feedback on your (and your partner’s) writing.

# Final product:

A literary analysis essay.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. **Knowledge and skills you will need to demonstrate on this task:**
   1. On this task, you will show that you know these things:

* Soldiers who served in WWI suffered a variety of both physical and mental trauma as shown in the two Hemingway short stories.
  1. On this task, you will show that you are able to do these things:
* Write a literary analysis of these short stories highlighting the trauma of the WWI experience.
* Draw conclusions, make connections, interpret, and analyze your reading of literary and informational texts.
* Develop ideas, draw conclusions, interpret, and analyze through written response.

# Materials needed:

Choose 2 Hemingway stories AND choose 1 article:

* “Soldier’s Home,” by Ernest Hemingway
* “In Another Country,” by Ernest Hemingway
* “Old Man and the Bridge,” by Ernest Hemingway
* CNN article “Experts: Vets’ PTSD, violence a growing problem” <http://www.cnn.com/2012/01/17/us/veterans-violence>
* “Hemingway on War and Its Aftermath” by Thomas Putnam <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2006/spring/hemingway.html>

# Time requirements:

You will have approximately seven days to complete this task.

# Scoring:

Your work will be scored using the QPA Common Literary Analysis Task Rubric. You should make sure you are familiar with the language that describes the expectations for proficient performance.