



Lesson Plan

Honor Tradition

Created: 12/2021 by the National FFA Organization

Description of Lesson: *In this retiring address, 2020-21 National Eastern Region Vice President Miriam Hoffman reveals how honoring true traditions while making true change can lead to true progress.*

Student Learning Objectives:

After completing these activities, students will ...

1. Describe tradition, progress and change.
2. Describe a change and the impact.

Suggested Grade Level:

Grades 9 and 10 (This lesson is written so instructors can scale up or down based on class needs.)

Suggested Time: 45 minutes (*Time requirements may vary based upon student understanding and class schedule.)

Resources/References:

1. Video: "Miriam Hoffman Retiring Address," <https://vimeo.com/640539042>

Related Resources:

1. Retiring Addresses and Keynotes, [FFA.org/ffa-video-center/convention-keynotes-and-retiring-addresses/](https://ffa.org/ffa-video-center/convention-keynotes-and-retiring-addresses/)

Equipment and Supplies Needed:

1. A copy of the "Honor Tradition" worksheet for each student
2. Internet access to play the video in real time or embed it in a PowerPoint ahead of time

Vocabulary:

1. Mantra
2. Tradition

Cross-Curricular Connections:

English/Language Arts
Describe traditions and proposed changes.

Virtual Instruction Ideas:

Have students download and watch the video on a device of their choice and complete the worksheet.

Student Activity Sheets:

Direct access to student activity sheets without lesson plan or answer key for easy upload to a learning management system or printing for classwork.

<https://ffa.box.com/s/vcrg5t84yiunn0cfdmmya8os2c7iwwfc> (Word)

<https://ffa.box.com/s/d0mkwscskegz8hrt573jbhc83a33q08k> (Non-Designed)

<https://ffa.box.com/s/apifyvjaihcnhlo32dpqs4pg164258t> (PDF)

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1RSfJmgTpUpaai3AsXKtNMXd9heMf9U--00CPDyUwY8o/copy> (Google)

These Activities are Aligned to the Following Standards:

FFA Precept

- FFA.PL-A.Action: Assume responsibility and take the necessary steps to achieve the desired results, no matter what the goal or task at hand.
- FFA.PL-C.Vision: Visualize the future and how to get there.
- FFA.PL-E.Awareness: Understand personal vision, mission and goals.
- FFA.PG-J.Mental Growth: Embrace cognitive and intellectual development relative to reasoning, thinking and coping.
- FFA.CS-N.Decision Making: Analyze a situation and execute an appropriate course of action.

Common Core – Writing

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.4: Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

AFNR Career Ready Practices

- CRP.02: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills. Career-ready individuals readily access and use the knowledge and skills acquired through experience and education to be more productive.
- CRP.04: Communicate clearly, effectively, and with reason. Career-ready individuals communicate thoughts, ideas and action plans with clarity, whether using written, verbal and/or visual methods.
- CRP.06: Demonstrate creativity and innovation. Career-ready individuals regularly think of ideas that solve problems in new and different ways, and they contribute those ideas in a useful and productive manner to improve their organization.
- CRP.08: Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them. Career-ready individuals readily recognize problems in the workplace, understand the nature of the problem, and devise effective plans to solve the problem.

Partnership for 21st Century Skills

- Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Initiative and Self-Direction
- Leadership and Responsibility

Lesson Plan:

1. **Bell Ringer:** What is a decision you have made that later was not such a good decision? Why did you make that decision?
2. **Introduction:** *Honoring true traditions while making true change can lead to true progress. Today, we are going to watch a retiring address from the 94th National FFA Convention & Expo. This retiring address was given by 2020-21 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Miriam Hoffman. In her speech, she discusses the importance of honoring tradition coupled with true change to help achieve true progress.*
3. **Activity:** Each student needs a copy of the worksheet "Honor Tradition."
 - a. **Part 1:** Students will watch the retiring address of 2020-21 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Miriam Hoffman and complete the activities. The video url is <https://vimeo.com/640539042>.
 - b. **Part 2:** As we heard, tradition is an important component to progress. Students will select a tradition in their lives that they have always thought could use a change and walk through the steps.
4. **Follow-up:** Have students go around and share their traditions with the group.
5. **Exit Ticket:** Why do you think some people change tradition just for the sake of change?

Name: _____

Aligned to the following standards:

FFA.PL-A; FFA.PL-C; FFA.PL-E; FFA.PG-J; FFA.CS-N; CCSS.ELA.W.9-10.4; CRP.02; CRP.04; CRP.06; CRP.08

Honor Tradition

Part 1

Directions:

Complete the following activities while watching the retiring address of 2020-21 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Miriam Hoffman. The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/640539042>.

"How often do we _____ at how things are done in this _____, and we are confident we know a better _____?"

How can we know the choices that we make can lead to true progress?

What did Lane do to look at tradition differently?

What does the sun symbolize in the FFA emblem?

- a. Hard work
- b. Progress
- c. Tradition
- d. A new era



True _____ + True _____ = True _____

Draw a series of emojis that depicts how this retiring address impacted you.



Describe your emojis.

Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

As we heard, tradition is an important component to progress. Select a tradition in your life that you have always thought could use a change, and walk through the steps below.

Describe the tradition you have selected.



Describe how you would change the tradition.

What steps would you have to take to make this change happen?



Does this change lead to true progress? Or is it just a change for the sake of change? Why or why not?



What would you tell someone about making change to ensure true progress?

Name: _____

Aligned to the following standards:

FFA.PL-A; FFA.PL-C; FFA.PL-E; FFA.PG-J; FFA.CS-N; CCSS.ELA.W.9-10.4; CRP.02; CRP.04; CRP.06; CRP.08

KEY: Honor Tradition

Part 1

Directions:

Complete the following activities while watching the retiring address of 2020-21 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President Miriam Hoffman. The video is available at <https://vimeo.com/640539042>.

"How often do we look at how things are done in this world, and we are confident we know a better way?"

How can we know the choices that we make can lead to true progress? **Answers will vary.**

What did Lane do to look at tradition differently?

Instead of completing a four-year degree, Lane attended a trade school for welding.

What does the sun symbolize in the FFA emblem?

- a. Hard work
- b. **Progress**
- c. Tradition
- d. A new era



True change + True tradition = True progress

Draw a series of emojis that depicts how this retiring address impacted you.

Answers will vary.



Describe your emojis.
Answers will vary.

Name: _____

Part 2

Directions:

As we heard, tradition is an important component to progress. Select a tradition in your life that you have always thought could use a change, and walk through the steps below.

Describe the tradition you have selected.

Answers will vary.



Describe how you would change the tradition.

Answers will vary.

What steps would you have to take to make this change happen?

Answers will vary.



Does this change lead to true progress? Or is it just a change for the sake of change? Why or why not?

Answers will vary.



What would you tell someone about making change to ensure true progress?

Answers will vary.