

"Highwomen" by The Highwomen

Part 1: Vocabulary and Discussion:

Coyote, Gifted, Laid hands, My time had come, Naked, Whispers, Bastards, Hung me, Salem Gallows hill, Freedom rider, Bound, Shots rang out, Preacher, unrighteous, baptized, weapons

Coyote	Salem Gallows hill
Gifted	Freedom Rider
Laid hands	Bound
My time had come	Shots rang out
Naked	Preacher
Whispers	Unrighteous
Bastards	Baptized
Hung Me	Weapons

A. Discuss each vocabulary word in terms of how it relates or affects student lives if that vocabulary is relevant to their lives. For example: How are you gifted? Why?

B. H/W: Use 6-8 words from the list above and make a story individually or as a group.

Low Level: N/A

Mid Level: Phrases + student drawings -> Tell the story.

High Level: Sentences +/- drawings -> tell the story.

Part 2: Fill in the Blanks - "Highwomen"

I was a Highwoman

And a mother from my _____

For my _____ I did what I had to do

My family left Honduras when they _____ the Sandinistas

We followed a coyote through the dust of _____

Every one of them except for me _____

And I am still _____

I was a healer

I was gifted as a girl

I laid hands upon the _____

Someone saw me _____ naked in the noon sun

I heard "witchcraft" in the _____ and I knew my time had come

The bastards hung me at the Salem gallows hill

But I am _____ still

I was a _____ rider

When we thought the South had won

Virginia in the _____ of '61

I sat down on the Greyhound that was _____ for Mississippi

My mother asked me if that ride was _____ my life

And when the shots rang out I never _____ the sound

But I am still _____.

And I'll take that ride again, And again, And again, And again, And again

Part 3: Find the Mistakes

I was a teacher

My heart broke for all the girls

But teaching was unrighteous in this world

In the summer I was capsized in the mighty Colorado

In the winter I heard the hounds and I knew I had been bound

And in my Savior's name, I paid my weapons down

But I am all around

Part 4: Order the Sentences

We are the daughters of the silent generations

We carry the sons you can only hold

Singing stories still untold

We are The Highwomen

But we will still remain

You sent our hearts to die alone in foreign nations

It may return to us as tiny drops of rain

And we'll come back again and again and again

And again and again X 4

Part 5: Comprehension

1. Read quietly and try to understand
2. What do you think you understand? Why?
3. Read as a group, analyze

Part 6: Pronunciation Fluency

Sing... (alternate lines sing the whole song) - Refer to separate lyric sheet