Teaching After the Paris Attacks:

Excerpted from group blog for educators piloting WWB Campus

**Wkaulbach started a conversation**

**(monday, november 16 2015 12:53 pm)**

Hi, after a horrific weekend of worldwide news events, I struggled to figure out how to present some basic understandings and qualm some irrational fears that students share. I actually used Iman Mersal's /Wisdom poem and let students pass it around as they annotated a favorite passage or highlighted a question, or make a text connection. But I also had them hear her read The Clot in Arabic. I wanted their first experience hearing Arabic to be pretty and peaceful and not connected to the news. I then have students walk from document to document on the walls in the room, leaving comments and looking for connections. A quote by Bernie Sanders on international forces, the BBC timeline of Egyptian history linked as a resource here and a map of ISIS attacks from the NYT is all I have.

**Abby Comstock-Gay started a conversation**

**(monday, november 16 2015 1:32 pm)**

Hi Whitney, thanks so much for sharing this timely lesson plan, which responds so well to the events happening in the world. It's really heartening that the resources we share can be used in such a way. I especially love the idea of introducing the sound of a language through poetry.   
  
How did the students respond? Do you think the lesson achieved what you were going for?   
  
Thanks again for the great input.

**Nadia Kalman started a conversation**

**(monday, november 16 2015 4:41 pm)**

Yes, thank you, Whitney! That sounds like a powerful lesson. Your students are lucky to have you.  
  
"The Clot" is a beautiful poem -- Abby, do you think it might be right for the Playlist of "Things Elude Me"?

**Nadia Kalman started a conversation**

**(monday, november 16 2015 4:43 pm)**

Here's a link to the translation of "The Clot": [masthead.net.au/issue7/mersal.html](http://www.masthead.net.au/issue7/mersal.html)  
  
There's also a video of Mersal reading it, as Whitney mentioned -- I saw one on YouTube