



Romeo and Juliet Unit

This is a guide to our unit plan for Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*. Lessons are not mapped out on a calendar to allow room for discussion or deeper exploration of some topics; we may do more than one or two lessons in one class period or lessons may take more than one class period. I will be using the following designation for readings: I.2 = Act I, Scene 2. In addition, sometimes I will refer to line numbers: I.2.30 = Act I, Scene 2, Line 30. Most of the viewings as we read will be of Baz Luhrmann's 1996 version of the play. We will watch the 1968 Franco Zeffirelli version at the conclusion of our reading.

Lesson 1

- ❖ We will watch the A&E Biography of William Shakespeare (approx. 55 minutes)

Lesson 2

- ❖ We will view portions of *Shakespeare in Love* to get a feel for Shakespearean theatre and times
- ❖ We will view and take notes on a Power Point demonstration and discuss
- ❖ We will do an exercise in Choral Reading of the Prologue (handout)

Lesson 3

- ❖ As we read, we will summarize each Act and collect information and write Character Diaries (see handout)
- ❖ We will explore and create Shakespearean Insults (handout)
- ❖ We will read I.1

Lesson 4

- ❖ We will explore the puns in and act out I.1
- ❖ We will read I.2

Lesson 5

- ❖ We will explore viewpoints on love and marriage (handout)
- ❖ We will read I.3

Lesson 6

- ❖ We will read I.4
- ❖ We will analyze I.4, Mercutio's Queen Mab/"I Dreamt a Dream" (handouts)

Lesson 7

- ❖ We will read I.5
- ❖ We will move I.5 from Page to Stage (handouts)

Lesson 8

- ❖ We will read 2.1-2.2

- ❖ We will look at figurative language (handout)
- ❖ We will watch and compare/contrast two versions of the Balcony Scene

Lesson 9

- ❖ We will explore 17th Century Pick-up Lines (handouts)
- ❖ We will complete 2.2

Lesson 10

- ❖ We will read 2.3
- ❖ We will examine Shakespeare's Language Tricks (handout)

Lesson 11

- ❖ We will read 2.4
- ❖ We will view 2.4 and compare it to the written version

Lesson 12

- ❖ We will read 2.5
- ❖ We will analyze Juliet's relationship with the Nurse

Lesson 13

- ❖ We will read 2.6
- ❖ We will discuss and analyze types of love in Acts I and 2

Lesson 14

- ❖ We will read 3.1 and view
- ❖ We will discuss foreshadowing and mood

Lesson 15

- ❖ Word Study in anticipation of 3.2
- ❖ Read 3.2

Lesson 16

- ❖ Read 3.3-4; discuss and analyze events
- ❖ View 3.3-4

Lesson 17

- ❖ Read 3.5; discuss foreshadowing
- ❖ View 3.5

Lesson 18

- ❖ Read 4.1-2
- ❖ Discuss Subtext, Stress, and Inflection in 4.1-2

Lesson 19

- ❖ Read 4.3
- ❖ Discuss Imagery in 4.3

Lesson 20

- ❖ Read 4.4-5
- ❖ Discuss Multiple Causes of Juliet's "Death"



Lesson 21

- ❖ Read 5.1-5.3
- ❖ Fate Debate activity

Lesson 22

- ❖ Examine 5.3 – Romeo’s Last Speech

Lesson 23

- ❖ Watch 5.3
- ❖ Discuss changes the director made

Lesson 24

- ❖ 17th Century Marriage Rules
- ❖ Parenting 101

Lesson 25

- ❖ View 1968 Franco Zeffirelli version of *Romeo and Juliet* in its entirety
- ❖ Screenings of Baz Luhrmann’s 1996 version in its entirety will be available during lunch if there is enough interest

Major Assignments

- ❖ Character Diaries (Creative) 100 points
- ❖ Juliet/Nurse Essay (Lesson 12) 100 points
- ❖ Synthesis Essay (Plot Summaries + Character Description = Synthesis of Importance of Character to Plot) 100 points

