

**Subject Area:** English Literature  
**Unit Title:** Introduction to English Literature:  
Romeo and Juliet - Character Analysis  
**Grade Level:** 9-12  
**Lesson Number:** 1 of 10

**Duration:** 60 minutes  
**Date:** February 10, 2024  
**Teacher:** Ms. Jane Doe  
**Room:** 101

## Curriculum Standards Alignment

### Content Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.1: Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text.

### Skills Standards:

- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.3: Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text.
- CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings.

### Cross-Curricular Links:

- History: Understanding the historical context of the play
- Psychology: Analyzing the characters' motivations and behaviors

## Essential Questions & Big Ideas

### Essential Questions:

- What are the main themes of Romeo and Juliet?
- How do the characters' motivations and conflicts drive the plot of the play?
- What role does fate play in the tragic ending of the play?

### Enduring Understandings:

- The play Romeo and Juliet explores themes of love, hate, fate, and conflict.
- The characters' motivations and conflicts drive the plot of the play.
- The play's tragic ending is a result of the characters' choices and the fate that awaits them.

## Student Context Analysis

### Class Profile:

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

### Learning Styles Distribution:

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%



## Pre-Lesson Preparation

### Room Setup:

- Arrange desks in a circle for discussion
- Set up a projector and screen for presentations

### Technology Needs:

- Computer with internet access
- Projector and screen

### Materials Preparation:

- Copies of Romeo and Juliet
- Whiteboard and markers

### Safety Considerations:

- Ensure students are aware of the classroom rules and expectations
- Provide a safe and respectful learning environment

## Detailed Lesson Flow

### Introduction to the Play (10 minutes)

- Introduce the play and its author
- Provide background information on the historical context

### Reading and Analysis (20 minutes)

- Have students read Act 1, Scene 1
- Lead a class discussion on the characters and their motivations

#### Engagement Strategies:

- Think-pair-share
- Group discussion

### Character Analysis (20 minutes)

Page 0 of 7

- Have students analyze the characters of Romeo and Juliet
- Lead a class discussion on the characters' motivations and conflicts

#### Checking for Understanding:

- Formative assessment
- Exit tickets

## Differentiation & Support Strategies

### For Struggling Learners:

- Provide extra support and scaffolding
- Offer one-on-one instruction

### For Advanced Learners:

- Provide additional challenges and extensions
- Encourage independent research and projects

### ELL Support Strategies:

- Provide visual aids and graphic organizers
- Offer bilingual resources and support

### Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Teach empathy and self-awareness
- Encourage self-reflection and self-regulation

## Assessment & Feedback Plan

### Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Exit tickets
- Quizzes and tests

### Success Criteria:

- Students can analyze the characters and their motivations
- Students can explain the themes of the play

### Feedback Methods:

- Verbal feedback
- Written feedback

Page 0 of 7

## Homework & Extension Activities

### Homework Assignment:

Read Act 1, Scene 2 and answer the following questions:

- What are the main themes of the play?
- How do the characters' motivations and conflicts drive the plot of the play?

### Extension Activities:

- Research the historical context of the play
- Write a creative piece inspired by the play

**Parent/Guardian Connection:**

Encourage parents/guardians to ask their child about the play and its themes.

## Teacher Reflection Space

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**Pre-Lesson Reflection:**

- What challenges do I anticipate?
- Which students might need extra support?
- What backup plans should I have ready?

**Post-Lesson Reflection:**

- What went well?
- What would I change?
- Next steps for instruction?

## Background Information

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Romeo and Juliet, written by William Shakespeare, is a tragic love story about two young lovers from feuding families in Verona.

The play explores themes of love, hate, fate, and conflict, making it an excellent choice for teaching character analysis, literary devices, and critical thinking skills.

## Learning Objectives

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- Students will be able to analyze the characters of Romeo and Juliet, identifying their motivations, conflicts, and relationships.
- Students will be able to explain the themes of the play and how they relate to the characters.
- Students will be able to use textual evidence to support their analysis of the characters and themes.

### Character Analysis Essay

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Have students write an essay analyzing the characters of Romeo and Juliet, using textual evidence to support their claims.

- What are the characters' motivations and conflicts?
- How do the characters' relationships with each other drive the plot of the play?
- What themes are developed through the characters and their actions?

### Character Analysis Rubric

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- Content (40 points): Does the essay provide a clear and thorough analysis of the characters?
- Organization and Structure (30 points): Is the essay well-organized and easy to follow?
- Style and Conventions (30 points): Is the writing clear, concise, and free of errors?

### Theme Discussion

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Have students participate in a class discussion on the themes of the play, using textual evidence to support their arguments.

- What are the main themes of the play?
- How do the characters' motivations and conflicts drive the plot of the play?
- What role does fate play in the tragic ending of the play?

### Theme Discussion Rubric

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- Participation and Engagement (40 points): Does the student actively participate in the discussion and engage with their peers?
- Depth and Insight of Analysis (30 points): Does the student provide thoughtful and insightful analysis of the themes?
- Use of Textual Evidence (30 points): Does the student use textual evidence to support their arguments?



### Conclusion

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The study of Romeo and Juliet is a rich and rewarding experience for students, offering opportunities for character analysis, theme discussion, and critical thinking.

By incorporating differentiation strategies, assessment opportunities, and student engagement factors, teachers can create a comprehensive and engaging curriculum that meets the needs of all learners.

### Appendix

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- Character Analysis Essay Rubric
- Theme Discussion Rubric
- Scene Performance Rubric

