

Othello by William Shakespeare
3 Day Lesson Plan

Lesson Breakdown

Objective: Students will be able to analyze the major themes of *Othello* (race, prejudice, gender, revenge, love, etc).

Standard: NJLSA.R2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

Essential Question: Where do we see different themes through the play *Othello*.

Skills: Analyze text, analyze characters, analyze themes

Materials: Copy of *Othello*, Day 1 Theme worksheet, Day 2 Theme worksheet

Lesson Outline

Day 1:

- 1.) Read *Othello* as a class, pausing to ask questions such as:
 - What do you think will happen next?
 - What themes do you see?
 - What could this character/relationship symbolize?
- 2.) As students read, have them complete the theme worksheet. They should list any themes they see and jot down an example of where this theme is present in the play.

Day 2:

- 1.) Recap the prior day. Call on students to give a short summary of each act of the story.
- 2.) Have students work in small groups to share their Theme Worksheets. The students should compare worksheets, as well as go back through the text to find 3 examples of each theme.

Day 3:

- 1.) Recap the prior two days.
- 2.) Ask students to present their group's Day 2 Theme worksheet.

ASSESSMENT

- 3.) Assign each group a theme in secret.
 - a.) Give students 10 minutes to work.
 - b.) Each group should find a specific example from the text/their worksheet that represents this theme.
 - c.) Students should then perform this scene, without saying their group's assigned theme.
 - d.) Once the scene is performed, the audience should raise their hands and guess what the theme was.
 - e.) Once the theme is guessed correctly, the audience can raise their hands to say where they saw this theme represented throughout the performance.

Name _____ Date _____

Day 1: List any themes you see as you read *Othello*. Then, cite a specific example of a scene/character/conversation/etc that represents this theme.

	Theme	Example
Theme 1		
Theme 2		
Theme 3		
Theme 4		
Theme 5		

Name _____ Date _____

Day 2: Have students work in small groups to compare Day 1's Theme worksheet. List 3 examples for each theme using your peer's worksheet, as well as going back through the text.

Themes	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3
Revenge			
Love			
Race			
Gender			
Other _____			