

Character Based Literacy Program Lesson Plan

Giver, Sonnets #130 and #116, by William Shakespeare



Outcomes for Today

PREPARE

1. Background Gather background knowledge about a place, time, event, person, or thing.



Leadership Requires Engagement Leaders develop and dedicate their talents to promote the common good. This is where they choose to spend their time and effort. Leadership requires positive civic engagement. It is making sure that the communities I am part of are better because I am in them. And that I am better because of the communities I choose to be part of.

What is a sonnet?

A sonnet is a 14-line poem, usually in iambic pentameter. For his sonnets, Shakespeare used a rhyming pattern of: abab, cdcd, efef, gg. His 154 sonnets are famous for their analyses and descriptions of life and love; both idealized and worldly.

2. Wordwall Here are five vocabulary words to teach and add to the Word Wall.

dun (130)	rare (130)	impediments (116)	tempests (116)	alters (116)
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READ

3. Review Review the timeline from the beginning every day.

4. Read Read the selection, usually in a Shared Reading *Read React Predict Cycle* of 2-3 pages.

Shakespeare's Sonnet 130: "*My mistress' eyes are nothing like the sun*"

Shakespeare's Sonnet 116: "*Let me not to the marriage of true minds*"

RESPOND

5. Timeline Agree on the most important events in today's reading, and list 3-5 on the timeline.

Sonnet #130:

1. In Sonnet #130, Shakespeare pokes fun at the popular notion of comparing a woman to impossible idealized standards.
2. Shakespeare combines compliments with frank acknowledgements of the imperfection of humanity.
3. For example, Shakespeare points out that while he enjoys listening to his love's voice, music is a prettier sound.
4. He also says her walk is likely less graceful than that of a goddess.

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5. However, in the last two lines, he points out that his love's true self is more beautiful than it can be made with false comparisons.

Sonnet #116:

1. Sonnet #116 speaks of the strength and timelessness of true and lasting love.
2. Shakespeare begins by stating that it is possible for love to last, and does not have to fade in the face of difficulty and conflict.
3. True love, he argues, stands up against problems, arguments, time, and the fading of physical beauty.
4. As the marriage vows say, Shakespeare's love will last until death.
5. He ends with a vow that if he is wrong, then now man ever truly has loved.

6. Map Add to ongoing class activities like a KWL chart or map: where did the characters go?

6g6 Venn Diagram

Compare the themes and ideas expressed about love in the two sonnets.

- What ideals do both express about love?
- How do they differ? Is one poem less realistic than the other?
- Which is easier to understand?
- Which reflects your idea about love?

EXPLORE

7. Activity Explore the reading more deeply with a visual or oral language activity.

Open Mind Portrait

Create an open mind portrait for William Shakespeare in which he is thinking about love and relationships.

- What does Shakespeare look like?
- Who is his ideal partner in life?
- What does he really think about love?

8. Discussion Ask discussion questions of all 9 types.

Key Questions

1. Which sonnet most closely represents your beliefs about love?
2. Which sonnet do you think is most romantic?
3. Thinking of Shakespeare plays with which you are familiar, which play might match which poem?
4. What three adjectives would you use to describe Shakespeare's attitude about love?
5. Which sonnet's language is more complex? Why do you think this is?
6. Is there a hidden message in either sonnet?
7. Why do you think Shakespeare's poems were so popular when they were first published?

9. Analyze

Analyze the key paragraph.

Key Lines, Sonnet #130

*“And yet by heaven, I think my love as rare,
As any she belied with false compare.”*

EXTEND

10. Write

Have each student write a short product based on today's prompt to connect to the unit theme.

Leadership in the home is as important, if not more important, as leadership in the wider community. Part of our definition of leadership is “that I am better because of the communities I choose to be part of.” One of these communities is the immediate community we form with the relationships we choose to develop with our families and friends.

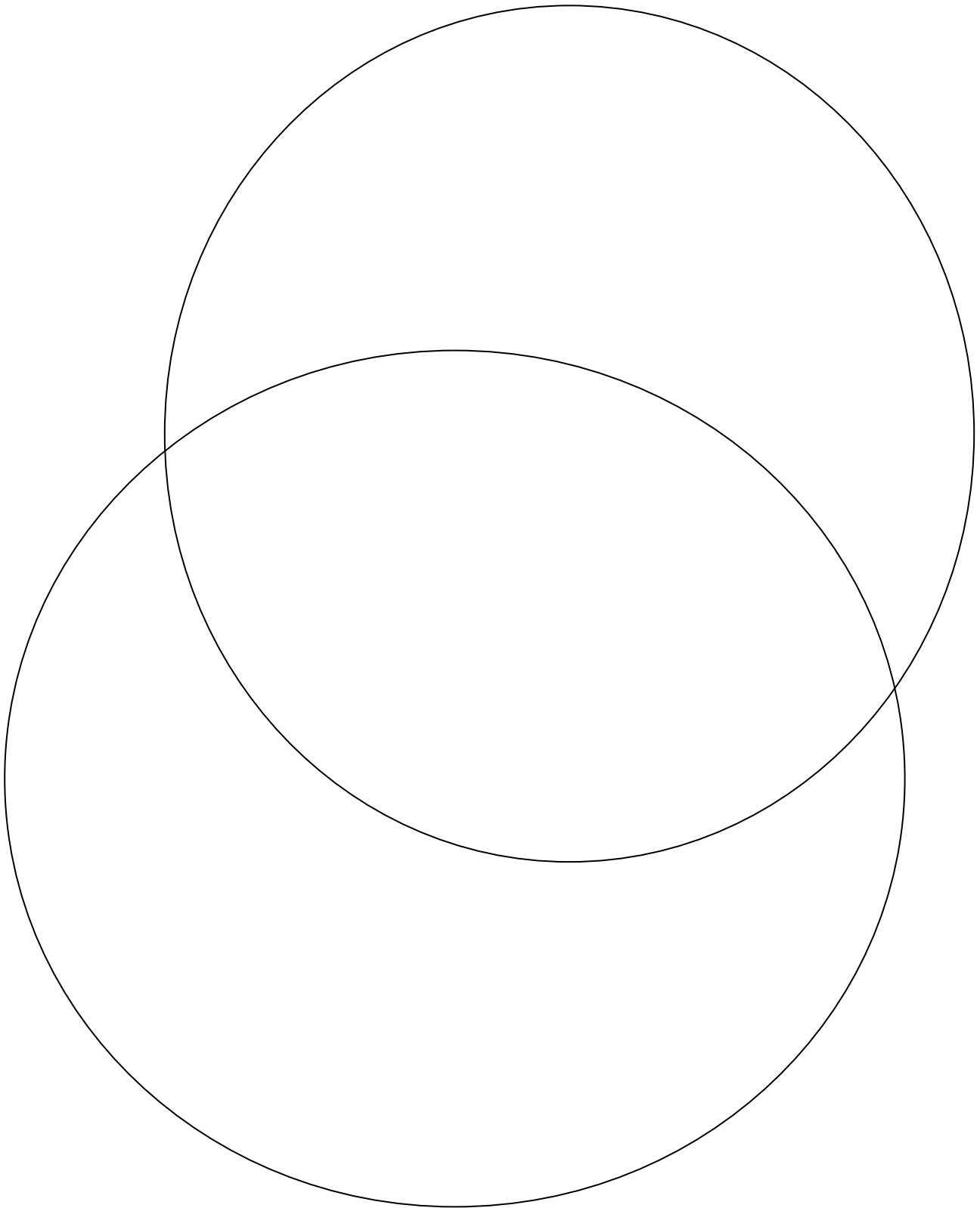
Today, you are a modern William Shakespeare. **Write a poem about love in Shakespeare's style, using his rhyming scheme, and iambic pentameter, if possible.** The theme of your poem should be positive love: what is a healthy attitude toward love, both romantic and platonic? What is a true leader's attitude about love?

11. Close

Close by extending today's lesson to life and the world.

Research and study a poem by a contemporary poet about love. How does that author's concept of love compare to Shakespeare's? What are the differences in (style, gender identity, theme, etc) that make the poem a reflection of modern ideals?

6g6 Venn Diagram Chart



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Name _____

Key Lines, Sonnet #130

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Writing Task

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