

8th Grade Reading Unit 3- Drama

Content Area: **Reading**
Course(s): **Great Books 8, Jr. Great Books 8**
Time Period: **Marking Period 2**
Length: **30 days**
Status: **Published**

Established Goals/Standards

LA.RL.8.2	Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to the characters, setting, and plot; provide an objective summary of the text.
LA.RL.8.3	Analyze how particular lines of dialogue or incidents in a story or drama propel the action, reveal aspects of a character, or provoke a decision.
LA.RL.8.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.
LA.RL.8.5	Compare and contrast the structure of two or more texts and analyze how the differing structure of each text contributes to its meaning and style.
LA.RL.8.6	Analyze how differences in the points of view of the characters and the audience or reader (e.g., created through the use of dramatic irony) create such effects as suspense or humor.
LA.RL.8.7	Evaluate the choices made by the directors or actors by analyzing the extent to which a filmed or live production of a story or drama stays faithful to or departs from the text or script.
LA.RL.8.8	(Not applicable to literature)
LA.RL.8.9	Analyze and reflect on (e.g., practical knowledge, historical/cultural context, and background knowledge) how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new.
LA.RL.8.10	By the end of the year read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems at grade level text-complexity or above, scaffolding as needed.
LA.RI.8.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone, including analogies or allusions to other texts.
LA.RI.8.7	Evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of using different mediums (e.g., print or digital text, video, multimedia) to present a particular topic or idea.
LA.W.8.3.A	Engage and orient the reader by establishing a context and point of view and introducing a narrator and/or characters; organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.
LA.W.8.3.B	Use narrative techniques, such as dialogue, pacing, description, and reflection, to develop experiences, events, and/or characters.
LA.W.8.3.C	Use a variety of transition words, phrases, and clauses to convey sequence, signal shifts from one time frame or setting to another, and show the relationships among experiences and events.
LA.W.8.3.D	Use precise words and phrases, relevant descriptive details, and sensory language to capture the action and convey experiences and events.
LA.W.8.3.E	Provide a conclusion that follows from and reflects on the narrated experiences or events.
LA.W.8.4	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, voice and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for

writing types are defined in standards 1–3 above.)

LA.W.8.9.A	Apply grade 8 Reading standards to literature (e.g., “Analyze how a modern work of fiction draws on themes, patterns of events, or character types from myths, traditional stories, or religious works such as the Bible, including describing how the material is rendered new”).
LA.SL.8.1.A	Come to discussions prepared, having read or researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.
LA.SL.8.1.B	Follow rules for collegial discussions and decision-making, track progress toward specific goals and deadlines, and define individual roles as needed.
LA.SL.8.1.C	Pose questions that connect the ideas of several speakers and respond to others’ questions and comments with relevant evidence, observations, and ideas.
LA.SL.8.1.D	Acknowledge new information expressed by others, and, when warranted, qualify or justify their own views in light of the evidence presented.
LA.SL.8.3	Delineate a speaker’s argument and specific claims, evaluating the soundness of the reasoning and relevance and sufficiency of the evidence and identifying when irrelevant evidence is introduced.

Essential Questions

Please add your Essential Questions by clicking on the Lists tab above.

- How do directors create an authentic version of a playwright's text
- How do gender roles shape characters in literature?
- How do playwrights show the theme throughout the play?
- How does race affect our understanding of the American experience in literature?
- How is the American dream part of the modern American literary narrative?
- What are the elements of drama?
- What are the techniques of film and how do they help us understand literature?
- What narrative elements do drama and other forms of literature share?

Enduring Understanding

Please add your Enduring Understandings by clicking on the Lists tab above.

- Directors create an authentic version of a playwright's text through casting decisions, set design, costumes, and a variety of other artistic decisions that adhere to the main theme, dialogue and stage directions of the play.
- Drama and literature both have conflicts, plot, characters, rising action, and a climax.
- Film makers use camera angles, lighting, sound, and sets to create a vision that reflects the central theme of the play.
- Playwrights show the theme through the actions and dialogue of the characters. All dialogue, scenes, and actions should relate back to the central theme.
- Slavery, racism, and the civil rights movement have impacted the Black American identity in literature.
- The American Dream is rooted in upward class mobility, and it's success or failure is an essential part of the modern American narrative.

- The elements of drama include stage directions, characters, dialogue, acts, and scenes.
- Understanding the social construction of gender roles is an essential part of the modern American narrative.

Content

- camera angles
- casting decisions
- character development
- characters
- citing quotes properly from a play
- class in America
- conflict (internal and external)
- dialogue
- dramatic complications
- dramatic tension and suspense
- film
- foreshadowing
- gender in America
- identity
- irony
- lighting
- race in America
- set
- stage directions
- use of music and sound in a performance

Resources

Please add your Resources by clicking on the Lists tab above.

- Narrative in the Life of Frederick Douglass - GB
- Poems by Langston Hughes and Paul Laurence Dunbar - GB and JGB
- Raisin in the Sun - GB