

# Unit 4: Star-Crossed Romances

Content Area: **ELA**  
Course(s): **ELA 1**  
Time Period: **JanFeb**  
Length: **4-6 weeks Grade 9**  
Status: **Published**

## **Title Section**

---

## **Department of Curriculum and Instruction**



**Belleville Public Schools**

**Curriculum Guide**

**English 1 - Grade 9**

**Unit 4- Star-Crossed Romances**

**Belleville Board of Education**

**102 Passaic Avenue**

**Belleville, NJ 07109**

**Prepared by: Joette Nigro, Teacher of English**

Dr. Richard Tomko, Ph.D., M.J., Superintendent of Schools

Ms. LucyAnn Demikoff, Director of Curriculum and Instruction K-12

Ms. Nicole Shanklin, Director of Elementary Education

Mr. George Droste, Director of Secondary Education

Board Approved: September 23, 2019

## **Unit Overview**

---

This unit includes an introduction to William Shakespeare and drama as a literary genre. In this unit, students will analyze and summarize the historical background of William Shakespeare, his works, and the playwright's impact on literature overall. Students will read, perform and analyze a drama while identifying the elements that make the work a drama. While applying a variety of reading strategies to the play Romeo and Juliet, there will be an emphasis on reading Shakespeare's poetry and using paraphrasing and context clues to check for understanding. Students will also read other forms of literature and compare themes and ideas based on star-crossed romances.

## **Enduring Understanding**

---

- **Enduring Understanding:**

- Literature reveals the nature of humanity and the human condition such as star-crossed romances
- Poetry and drama is a reflection of society.
- Poetry and drama is a form of expression which uses language to create an emotional effect.
- The ability to analyze and evaluate a decision-making plan, and use it to solve a real or fictional problem is significant in literature and real life.

- 

- **Essential Question:**

- Questions that will help trigger discussion and understanding of the main ideas and topics presented in this unit.

## **Essential Questions**

---

- Do we determine our own destinies?
- Should the opinions of others affect our own choices or destinies?
- How is poetry a reflection of society?
- Why share personal experiences and observations through writing?
- What creates a drama?
- What are the advantages of hearing a play out loud?

## **Exit Skills**

---

By the end of Grade 9, ELA Unit 4, the student should be able to:

- Do we determine our own destinies?
- Should the opinions of others affect our own choices or destinies?
- How is poetry a reflection of society?
- Why share personal experiences and observations through writing?
- What creates a drama?
- What are the advantages of hearing a play out loud?

LA.RL.9-10.1	Cite strong and thorough textual evidence and make relevant connections to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferentially, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.
LA.RL.9-10.4	Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).
LA.RL.9-10.7	Analyze the representation of a subject or a key scene in two different artistic mediums, including what is emphasized or absent in each work (e.g., Auden's "Musée des Beaux Arts" and Breughel's Landscape with the Fall of Icarus).
LA.RL.9-10.10a	By the end of grade 9, read and comprehend literature, including stories, dramas, and poems at grade level text-complexity or above with scaffolding as needed.
LA.RI.9-10.3	Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events, including the order in which the points are made, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections that are drawn between them.
LA.RI.9-10.6	Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetorical devices to advance that point of view or purpose.
LA.RI.9-10.7	Analyze various perspectives as presented in different mediums (e.g., a person's life story in both print and multimedia), determining which details are emphasized in each account.
LA.RI.9-10.10b	By the end of grade 10, read and comprehend literary nonfiction at grade level text-complexity or above.
LA.W.8.1	Write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.
LA.W.8.1.A	Introduce claim(s), acknowledge and distinguish the claim(s) from alternate or opposing claims, and organize the reasons and evidence logically.
LA.W.8.1.B	Support claim(s) with logical reasoning and relevant evidence, using accurate, credible sources and demonstrating an understanding of the topic or text.
LA.W.8.1.D	Establish and maintain a formal style.
LA.W.8.1.E	Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the argument presented.
LA.W.9-10.1.D	Establish and maintain a style and tone appropriate to the audience and purpose (e.g., formal and objective for academic writing) while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.
LA.W.9-10.3.D	Use precise words and phrases, telling details, and sensory language to convey a vivid picture of the experiences, events, setting, and/or characters.
LA.W.9-10.5	Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, trying a new approach, or consulting a style manual (such as MLA or APA Style), focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience.
LA.W.9-10.9.A	Apply grades 9–10 Reading standards to literature (e.g., "Analyze how an author draws on and transforms source material in a specific work [e.g., how Shakespeare treats a theme or topic from Ovid mythology or the Bible or how a later author draws on a play by

Shakespeare]”).

LA.SL.9-10.1	Initiate and participate effectively in a range of collaborative discussions (one-on-one, in groups, and teacher-led) with peers on grades 9–10 topics, texts, and issues, building on others’ ideas and expressing their own clearly and persuasively.
LA.SL.9-10.1.C	Propel conversations by posing and responding to questions that relate the current discussion to broader themes or larger ideas; actively incorporate others into the discussion; and clarify, verify, or challenge ideas and conclusions.
LA.SL.9-10.4	Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically. The content, organization, development, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.
LA.L.9-10.1.A	Use parallel structure.
LA.L.9-10.2.C	Spell correctly.
LA.L.9-10.4	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grades 9–10 reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
LA.L.9-10.4.D	Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a word or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
LA.L.9-10.6	Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific words and phrases, sufficient for reading, writing, speaking, and listening at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a word or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

## Interdisciplinary Connections

---

SOC.9-12.1.1.1	Compare present and past events to evaluate the consequences of past decisions and to apply lessons learned.
SOC.9-12.1.1.2	Analyze how change occurs through time due to shifting values and beliefs as well as technological advancements and changes in the political and economic landscape.
SOC.9-12.1.3.1	Distinguish valid arguments from false arguments when interpreting current and historical events.

## Learning Objectives

---

- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research
- Paraphrase (retell) portions of a text read aloud or information presented visually and orally
- Write routinely over extended time frames (for research, reflection, and revision)
- Read a Shakespeare play
- Interpret literary elements used in a play or poetry
- Apply a variety of reading strategies to the play, with special emphasis on reading Shakespeare's dramas and poetry
- Research word origins
- Research Shakespeare's life and the history of The Globe Theater
- Paraphrase, analyze, and critique a poetry (sonnets)
- Memorize and present a piece of poetry

- Compose an original piece of poetry

**Action Verbs:** Below are examples of action verbs associated with each level of the Revised Bloom's Taxonomy.

Remember	Understand	Apply	Analyze	Evaluate	Create
Choose	Classify	Choose	Categorize	Appraise	Combine
Describe	Defend	Dramatize	Classify	Judge	Compose
Define	Demonstrate	Explain	Compare	Criticize	Construct
Label	Distinguish	Generalize	Differentiate	Defend	Design
List	Explain	Judge	Distinguish	Compare	Develop
Locate	Express	Organize	Identify	Assess	Formulate
Match	Extend	Paint	Infer	Conclude	Hypothesize
Memorize	Give Examples	Prepare	Point out	Contrast	Invent
Name	Illustrate	Produce	Select	Critique	Make
Omit	Indicate	Select	Subdivide	Determine	Originate
Recite	Interrelate	Show	Survey	Grade	Organize
Select	Interpret	Sketch	Arrange	Justify	Plan
State	Infer	Solve	Breakdown	Measure	Produce
Count	Match	Use	Combine	Rank	Role Play
Draw	Paraphrase	Add	Detect	Rate	Drive
Outline	Represent	Calculate	Diagram	Support	Devise
Point	Restate	Change	Discriminate	Test	Generate
Quote	Rewrite	Classify	Illustrate		Integrate
Recall	Select	Complete	Outline		Prescribe
Recognize	Show	Compute	Point out		Propose
Repeat	Summarize	Discover	Separate		Reconstruct
Reproduce	Tell	Divide			Revise
	Translate	Examine			Rewrite
	Associate	Graph			Transform
	Compute	Interpolate			
	Convert	Manipulate			
	Discuss	Modify			
	Estimate	Operate			
	Extrapolate	Subtract			
	Generalize				
	Predict				



---

### Suggested Activities & Best Practices

Example: Students should be given assessment options for The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet such as: a written assignment, creating a comic book based on the play, or a presentation underscoring the theme.

**Student Centered Learning:** Students should either have already selected groups or groups of their choosing and we ready to jigsaw or answer higher order thinking discussion questions related to the theme or topic of the piece of literature being discussed.

**Use of Rubrics:** After discussing an assignment, allow students to create what they believe to be a fair rubric for assessing the assignment. This allows the students to have a say in how they will be graded as well as accountability for the assignment.

**Starting classes with a "Do Now" activity:** Using a connection to life question that relates to the piece of literature will make the students be able to connect to the text and jump start to discussion.

**Allowing students to choose their own projects:** Having a variety of projects that the students can choose from helps address all learning types. This will allow the students to choose the project they feel they can be most successful in completing.

**Brainstorming:** This helps in the writing process because it will allow the student to know if they are grasping the topic

**Writing Process:** Having students be involved in the writer's workshop process of writing

## **Assessment Evidence - Checking for Understanding (CFU)**

---

Example: The students will take a multiple choice, true/false, and open ended test after each act of The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet. (summative assessment)

### **On Pearson Online Portal:**

Unit Quizzes - summative assessment

Selection Quizzes - summative assessment

Unit Tests - summative assessment

Selection Tests - summative assessment

Various worksheets to go along with selections - formative assessment

### **Department Made:**

Quarterly Assessments/Common Benchmarks - summative assessment

Unit/Selection Review - formative assessment

### **Teacher Made:**

Web-Based Assessments - alternative assessment

Various Assignments/Projects/Essay Topics - alternative assessment

Evaluation Rubrics - formative assessment

Exit Tickets - formative assessment

- Admit Tickets
- Anticipation Guide
- Common Benchmarks
- Compare & Contrast
- Create a Multimedia Poster
- DBQ's
- Define
- Describe
- Evaluate
- Evaluation rubrics
- Exit Tickets
- Explaining
- Fist- to-Five or Thumb-Ometer
- Illustration
- Journals

- KWL Chart
- Learning Center Activities
- Multimedia Reports
- Newspaper Headline
- Outline
- Question Stems
- Quickwrite
- Quizzes
- Red Light, Green Light
- Self- assessments
- Socratic Seminar
- Study Guide
- Surveys
- Teacher Observation Checklist
- Think, Pair, Share
- Think, Write, Pair, Share
- Top 10 List
- Unit review/Test prep
- Unit tests
- Web-Based Assessments
- Written Reports

## **Primary Resources & Materials**

---

Textbook(Hard copy and Digital): My Perspectives-English Language Arts 9th Grade Edition

Grammar: Heath

Literature:

Whole-Class Learning

Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

Small-Group Learning

Literary Criticism: Romeo and Juliet is a Terrible Play,and David Leveaux Can't Change That by Alyssa Rosenberg

In Defense of Romeo and Juliet: It's Not Childish, It's "About" Childishness by Noah

Berlatsky

Independent Learning

"Annabel Lee" by Edgar Allen Poe

Novel Choices

The Fault in Our Stars by John Green

Writing:

Argumentative

Grammar:

Types of Sentences (Compound, Complex, etc)

## **Ancillary Resources**

---

- Teacher made study packets for corresponding pieces of literature
- Supplemental materials available on Pearson digital textbook
- Youtube
- Google Classroom
- Romeo and Juliet movie

## **Technology Infusion**

---

Chromebooks

SmartTV

Microsoft Word

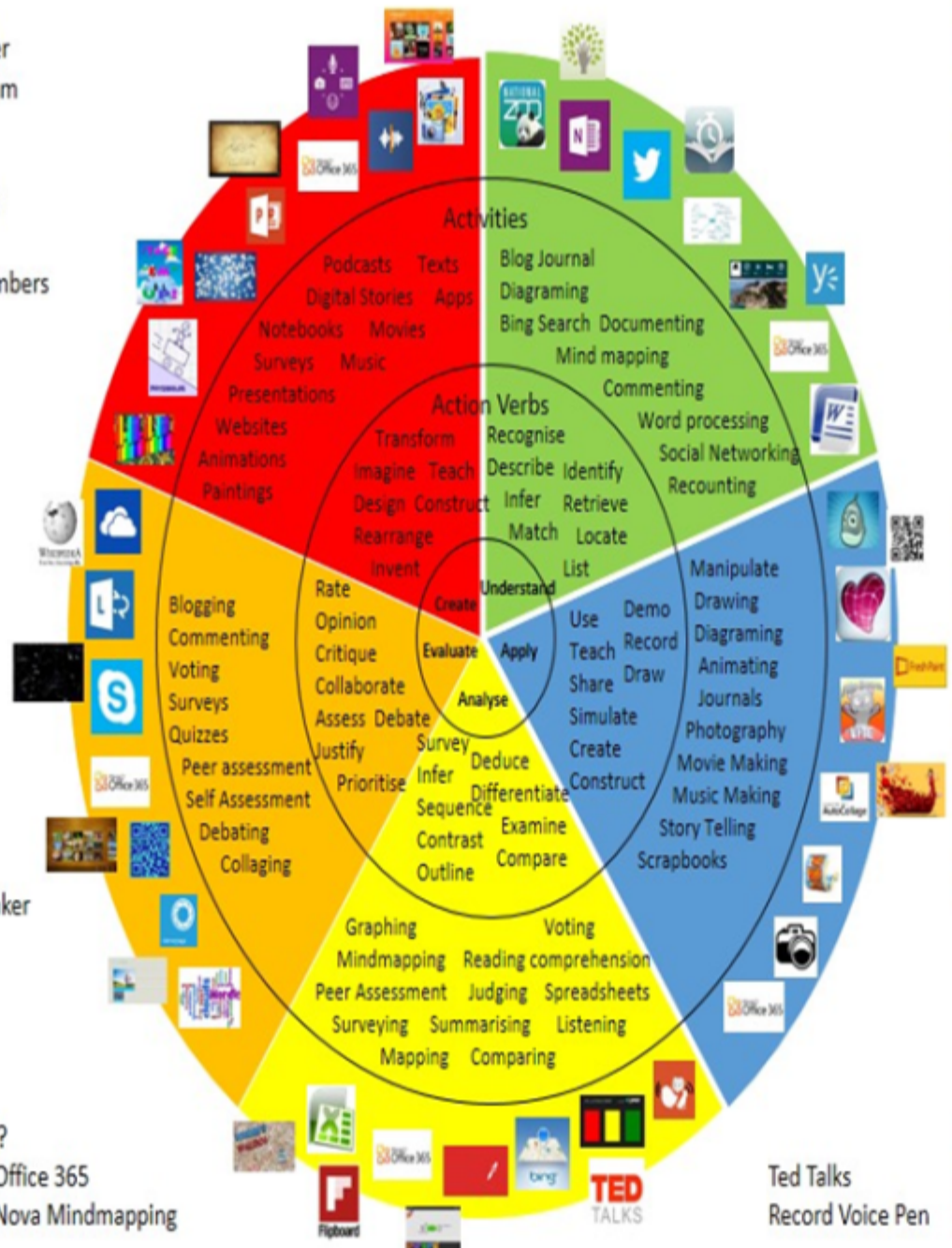
Google Classroom

GoogleDocs

Originally taken from <http://www.coetail.com/vzimmer/files/2013/02/IPadagogy-Wheel.001.jpg>  
And adapted for Windows 8.1 devices by Charlotte Beckhurst @CharBeckhurst

Wikipedia  
Skydrive  
Lync  
SkyMap  
Skype  
Office 365  
Puzzle Touch  
Easy QR  
Memorylage  
Life Moments  
Word Cloud Maker

Ted Talks  
Record Voice Pen



## Alignment to 21st Century Skills & Technology

---

- English Language Arts;
- Mathematics;
- Social Studies, including American History, World History, Geography, Government and Civics, and Economics;
- World languages;
- Technology;
- Visual and Performing Arts.

VPA.1.1.12.C.1	Analyze examples of theatre's influence on history and history's influence on theatre in Western and non-Western theatre traditions.
VPA.1.1.12.C.2	Formulate a process of script analysis to identify how the physical, emotional, and social dimensions of a character are communicated through the application of acting techniques.
VPA.1.1.12.C.3	Apply the basic physical and chemical properties (e.g., light, electricity, color, paint, scenic construction, costumes, makeup, and audio components) inherent in technical theatre to safely implement theatre design.
VPA.1.1.12.C.CS1	Theatre and the arts play a significant role in human history and culture.
VPA.1.1.12.C.CS2	Characters have physical, emotional, and social dimensions that can be communicated through the application of acting techniques.
VPA.1.1.12.C.CS3	Theatre production is an art, but it is also a science requiring knowledge of safety procedures, materials, technology, and construction techniques.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.4	Analyze how economic conditions and societal changes influence employment trends and future education.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.7	Examine the professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities for both employers and employees in the global workplace.

## 21st Century Skills/Interdisciplinary Themes

---

- Communication and Collaboration
  - Creativity and Innovation
  - Critical thinking and Problem Solving
  - ICT (Information, Communications and Technology) Literacy
  - Information Literacy
  - Life and Career Skills
  - Media Literacy
- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| VPA.1.1.12.C.1 | Analyze examples of theatre's influence on history and history's influence on theatre in Western and non-Western theatre traditions. |
|----------------|--|

VPA.1.1.12.C.2	Formulate a process of script analysis to identify how the physical, emotional, and social dimensions of a character are communicated through the application of acting techniques.
VPA.1.1.12.C.3	Apply the basic physical and chemical properties (e.g., light, electricity, color, paint, scenic construction, costumes, makeup, and audio components) inherent in technical theatre to safely implement theatre design.
VPA.1.1.12.C.CS1	Theatre and the arts play a significant role in human history and culture.
VPA.1.1.12.C.CS2	Characters have physical, emotional, and social dimensions that can be communicated through the application of acting techniques.
VPA.1.1.12.C.CS3	Theatre production is an art, but it is also a science requiring knowledge of safety procedures, materials, technology, and construction techniques.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.4	Analyze how economic conditions and societal changes influence employment trends and future education.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.7	Examine the professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities for both employers and employees in the global workplace.

## 21st Century Skills

---

- Civic Literacy
- Environmental Literacy
- Financial, Economic, Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy
- Global Awareness
- Health Literacy

CAEP.9.2.12.C.4	Analyze how economic conditions and societal changes influence employment trends and future education.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.7	Examine the professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities for both employers and employees in the global workplace.
CAEP.9.2.12.C.8	Assess the impact of litigation and court decisions on employment laws and practices.

## Differentiation

---

Example: Teacher will assign small groups and the students will work on reading the play The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet to each other to create a guided reading session.

### Differentiations:

- Small group instruction
- Small group assignments
- Extra time to complete assignments
- Pairing oral instruction with visuals
- Repeat directions
- Use manipulatives

- Center-based instruction
- Study guides
- Teacher reads assessments allowed
- Rephrase written directions
- Multisensory approaches
- Additional time
- Preview vocabulary
- Preview content & concepts
- Story guides
- Behavior management plan
- Highlight text
- Student(s) work with assigned partner
- Visual presentation
- Assistive technology
- Auditory presentations
- Dictation to scribe
- Small group setting

#### **Hi-Prep Differentiations:**

- Alternative formative and summative assessments
- Games and tournaments
- Group investigations
- Guided Reading
- Independent research and projects
- Interest groups
- Learning contracts
- Leveled rubrics
- Literature circles
- Multiple intelligence options
- Multiple texts
- Personal agendas
- Project-based learning
- Problem-based learning
- Stations/centers
- Tiered activities/assignments
- Varying organizers for instructions

#### **Lo-Prep Differentiations**

- Choice of books or activities
- Exploration by interest
- Flexible grouping
- Goal setting with students
- Jigsaw
- Mini workshops to re-teach or extend skills
- Open-ended activities
- Reading buddies
- Varied journal prompts
- Varied supplemental materials

## **Special Education Learning (IEP's & 504's)**

---

Example: For those students whose IEP/504 call for it, the teacher should read the directions aloud and clarify them as necessary during each test for The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet.

- printed copy of board work/notes provided
- additional time for skill mastery
- assistive technology
- behavior management plan
- Center-Based Instruction
- check work frequently for understanding
- computer or electronic device utilizes
- extended time on tests/ quizzes
- have student repeat directions to check for understanding
- highlighted text visual presentation
- modified assignment format
- modified test content
- modified test format
- modified test length
- multi-sensory presentation
- multiple test sessions
- preferential seating
- preview of content, concepts, and vocabulary
- Provide modifications as dictated in the student's IEP/504 plan
- reduced/shortened reading assignments
- Reduced/shortened written assignments
- secure attention before giving instruction/directions
- shortened assignments
- student working with an assigned partner
- teacher initiated weekly assignment sheet
- Use open book, study guides, test prototypes

## **English Language Learning (ELL)**

---

Example: The students will view the Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet movie for further clarification of the themes.

- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning;
- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers
- using computer word processing spell check and grammar check features
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests

## **At Risk**

---

Example: The teacher should limit the number of questions on the Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet test to allow students more time to focus on each question and answer choices.

- allowing students to correct errors (looking for understanding)
- teaching key aspects of a topic. Eliminate nonessential information
- allowing products (projects, timelines, demonstrations, models, drawings, dioramas, poster boards, charts, graphs, slide shows, videos, etc.) to demonstrate student's learning
- allowing students to select from given choices
- allowing the use of note cards or open-book during testing
- collaborating (general education teacher and specialist) to modify vocabulary, omit or modify items to reflect objectives for the student, eliminate sections of the test, and determine how the grade will be determined prior to giving the test.
- decreasing the amount of work presented or required
- having peers take notes or providing a copy of the teacher's notes
- marking students' correct and acceptable work, not the mistakes
- modifying tests to reflect selected objectives
- providing study guides
- reducing or omitting lengthy outside reading assignments
- reducing the number of answer choices on a multiple choice test
- tutoring by peers

- using authentic assessments with real-life problem-solving
- using true/false, matching, or fill in the blank tests in lieu of essay tests
- using videos, illustrations, pictures, and drawings to explain or clarify

## **Talented and Gifted Learning (T&G)**

---

Example: Students should be assigned one ACT a week to read in the Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet along with guided reading questions to move at a faster pace.

- Above grade level placement option for qualified students
- Advanced problem-solving
- Allow students to work at a faster pace
- Cluster grouping
- Complete activities aligned with above grade level text using Benchmark results
- Create a blog or social media page about their unit
- Create a plan to solve an issue presented in the class or in a text
- Debate issues with research to support arguments
- Flexible skill grouping within a class or across grade level for rigor
- Higher order, critical & creative thinking skills, and discovery
- Multi-disciplinary unit and/or project
- Teacher-selected instructional strategies that are focused to provide challenge, engagement, and growth opportunities
- Utilize exploratory connections to higher-grade concepts
- Utilize project-based learning for greater depth of knowledge

## **Sample Lesson**

---

Unit Name: Star-Crossed Romances

NJSLS: **LA.9-10.SL.9-10.1.A** - Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.

Interdisciplinary Connection: World Languages, World History

Statement of Objective: Analyze tone and diction in *Romeo and Juliet*; Interpret the meaning of words used in the text, analyze characters, and synthesize the plot with setting of the story.

Anticipatory Set/Do Now: Write a statement about the content of the selection, based on its title.

Learning Activity:

- Do Now
- Collaborative group/In-class reading

- Note-taking/Writing
- Lecture/Googledocs
- CFU

Student Assessment/CFU's:

- Exit Ticket

Materials:

- Literature textbook (hard copy or digital)
- Graphic organizer

21st Century Themes and Skills:

- Global Perspectives
- Civic Literacy

Differentiation/Modifications:

- Pairing oral instructions with visuals
- Provide assignment ahead of time
- Provide study guides

Integration of Technology:

- SmartTV
- Chromebooks
- Googleslides
- Google Classroom
- Video

LA.SL.9-10.1.A

Come to discussions prepared, having read and researched material under study; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence from texts and other research on the topic or issue to stimulate a thoughtful, well-reasoned exchange of ideas.