Lesson Plan (Concept Teaching)

Teacher: Jennifer Raymond  
Subject: Literature  
Grade Level: 9th Grade

Topic: Tragic Heroes (Romeo & Juliet Unit)

CCSS: (Include code and description):
CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.
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, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

Objective(s): After being presented examples and non-examples of tragic heroes, students will accurately identify and apply the characteristics of tragic heroes to complete a nomination form for the Tragic Hero Hall of Shame.

Materials needed: Tragic Hero PowerPoint presentation; whiteboard & dry erase markers (or blackboard & chalk); Concept Map (Attachment A); Tragic Hero Hall of Shame nomination form (Attachment C); textbooks; graphic organizer (Attachment D); paper and pens for note-taking; colored pencils or markers.

Phase 1: Introduction: Clarify goals and establish set.
- Ask students to list characteristics of a hero in a story or play—write them on the board.
- Ask students to refer to Shakespeare’s Dramatic Genres concept map (Attachment A)
- Quick review of the difference between our usage of “tragedy” and the dramatic concept of “tragedy.”
- Goal of today’s lesson is to define the characteristics of a “tragic hero” and how it is different than our understanding of a “hero.”
  - A “tragic hero” is a character who:
    - (1) is born into nobility;
    - (2) is highly emotional, stubborn, and isolated;
    - (3) has a fatal flaw that leads him to make a terrible mistake;
    - (4) suffers a terrible reversal of fortune as a result;
    - (5) realizes his mistake too late; and
    - (6) dies with honor.

Phase 2: Provide examples and non-example pairs:  
(See Attachment B & PowerPoint)

Phase 3: Check student attainment of concept:  
Check for student understanding by asking students to discuss the characteristics of tragic heroes in Romeo & Juliet in response to the following questions:
- Are the main characters in Romeo & Juliet noble or ordinary?
- Are any of the characters very emotional? Stubborn?
- Do any of the characters have a personal flaw?
- Are they isolated from their community?
- Do any of the characters make a terrible mistake, but recognize it too late?

• Is there a tragic hero in the play? More than one? Who are they?
• Tragic heroes are emotional, stubborn, isolate themselves, think they know better than anyone else. Does this sound like any other group of people? How old is Romeo? Is Romeo a tragic hero, or a moody teenager?

Phase 4: Analyze student thinking processes:
Display the original examples and non-examples and allow students to begin working on the nomination form for the Tragic Hero Hall of Shame (Attachment C). Students will complete the form as homework.

Modifications: Students will receive a graphic organizer to assist with note-taking during the PowerPoint (Attachment D).
Examples:

Anakin Skywalker in Star Wars III: Revenge of the Sith

Michael Vick

Tris Prior in the Divergent series

Britney Spears

Spiderman
Non-Examples:

Michael Jordan

Jason in Friday the 13th

President Barack Obama

Rue in The Hunger Games

Malala Yousafzai
TRAGIC HERO HALL OF SHAME
NOMINATION FORM

I hereby nominate ________________________________ as a candidate for the
Tragic Hero Hall of Shame. The nominee’s tragic flaw is: ____________________________

Describe the nominee’s tragic downfall using complete sentences:
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

What other characteristics make this nominee the perfect tragic hero? (Use complete sentences.)
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
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Please draw a picture or glue a photograph of the nominee below.
## What is a Tragic Hero?

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