

SAMPLE LESSON PLAN

Lesson objective				
To introduce Shakespearean plays as understandable texts, remove psychological barriers to studying them.				
Lesson length				
60 mins				
Prior knowledge				
Student has heard of Shakespeare and his plays, has no prior engagement with them beyond others complaining about how hard they are to understand				
Materials required				
Highlighters, pens, paper, excerpt of text				
Lesson plan				
Activity	Kind of activity	Breakdown	Materials	Time
Greetings	Conversation			2 mins
Update	Conversation	Check what student is doing in class		5 mins
Introduce world of Shakespeare	Independent brainstorming	Introduce that Shakespeare lived around the 1600s. <i>List 5 ways his world would be different from ours</i>	Paper, pens	20mins
	Independent brainstorming	<i>If you lived during that time, what could you do for fun with your friends?</i>		
	Listening	Introduce theatre as popular leisure		
Introduce world of theatre in the 1600s	Conversation	<i>Imagine you are putting on a play which is set at the beach, but you have no access to electricity or any modern technologies. How would you help your audience understand that the scene is happening on a beach?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Props ● Sets ● Physical sound production (waving cardboard, shakers, etc) 		10 mins

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through dialogue (isn't the beach lovely today?) <p>Key point – Shakespearean dialogue has to do a lot!</p>		
Introduce todays' text	Assisted reading	<p>Introduce the plot of the play</p> <p>Read <i>The Tempest</i>, Act 1 Scene 2 together. Clarify difficult terms when reading.</p>	Excerpt of text	<p>2mins</p> <p>10mins</p>
Reflection	Independent reading and annotating	<p><i>Using 3 different coloured highlighters, highlight the following:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Characters communicating their desires to each other</i> <i>Characters communicating information about the scene to the audience</i> <i>Characters communicating information about what's happened already to the audience</i> 	Highlighters	5mins
Reflection	Discussion	<p>Check the highlighted passages.</p> <p><i>What have we learnt from this activity about how we should read Shakespearean plays?</i></p> <p>Key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dialogue fulfils multiple functions Imagery and descriptions are very important Need to read carefully to figure out what the function of each bit of dialogue is to fully understand what Shakespeare is trying to achieve 		5mins