

Year 8 Unit: The Merchant of Venice

What? When? Why?	Lesson one Learning intentions (what can a student do at the end of the lesson)	Lesson two Learning intentions (what can a student do at the end of the lesson)	Lesson Three Learning intentions (what can a student do at the end of the lesson)	Lesson Four Learning intentions (what can a student do at the end of the lesson)
Week One	To understand the features of different genres – Histories, Comedies, Tragedies	To understand the features of a Shakespearean comedy.	To know the plot. To identify the genre of <i>A Merchant of Venice</i> .	To understand the context of Shakespearean theatre
Week Two	To explore and understand Elizabethan attitudes to Jews and Judaism.	To explore how attitudes to Judaism have changed over time.	To understand the attitudes to women and their role/s in Elizabethan times. To explore the attitudes to women and their role/s in contemporary society.	Literacy focus/recap of week's learning: commas for lists and clauses
Week Three	To understand Act 1 Scene 1. To understand the significance of setting.	To understand Act 1 Scene 2. To understand the significance of town & country (links to <i>Oliver Twist</i>) To explore the importance of symbolism used.	To explore the characters of the first two scenes (Act 1 Scene 1 and Scene 2).	Literacy focus/recap of week's learning- apostrophes for omission and possession
Week Four	To understand Act 1 Scene 3. To understand the significance of Shylock.	To understand how symbolism, imagery and connotations are used to present Shylock. To explore how Shakespeare uses methods to present Shylock.	To explore the features of comedy in opening scenes of Act 2.	Literacy focus/recap of week's learning-speech marks

Week Five	To understand the plot of Act 2.	To know all the themes for the text: love & friendship, prejudice and intolerance, greed & generosity, appearance & reality.	To know how to identify appropriate evidence and references (of themes).	Literacy focus/recap of week's learning-colons and semi colons
Week Six	To understand the significance of stage directions.	To explore the significance of soliloquy, monologue and aside.	To explore the significance of entrances/exits.	To explore the structure of the rising action e.g. time, place, placement of scenes, significance of 'minor' scenes
Week Seven	To know how to analyse an extract.	To understand how to plan an argument.	To explore how to express ideas and opinions about a text: argument.	Literacy focus/essay writing using all punctuation accurately
Week Eight	To understand how Shakespeare uses language in shylock's speech Act 3 Scene 1 (perspective & point of view)	To explore the connotations from allusions in Act 3 Scene 2.	To understand how Shakespeare uses language for effects - Act 3 Scene 2 opens the casket and reads.	Literacy focus/structure of essay writing-ordering ideas/info
Week Nine	To understand the structure of a Shakespearean comedy-climax in particular.	To explore the structural significance of Act 3 Scene 3.	To explore how Shakespeare uses disguise.	Literacy focus/structure of essay writing-ordering ideas/info into paragraphs
Week Ten	To understand Act 4 Scene 1: the trial scene.	To understand the significance of setting: the courtroom.	To understand how Shakespeare uses methods to show the presentation of different characters in the courtroom.	Literacy focus/structure of essay writing – writing an introduction
Week Eleven	To explore the themes of honourability and justice.	To analyse the language, form and structure of Portia's monologue focussing on iambic pentameter.	To analyse a key extract on Portia's monologue using Week 7 guidance to write an argument.	Literacy focus/structure of essay writing – writing a conclusion

Week Twelve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore Elizabethan reactions to Shylock's punishment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To explore Elizabethan attitudes to Judaism and Jews (link to Week 2). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To analyse how Shakespeare presents Shylock as a tragic hero. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literacy focus/structure of essay writing – knowing how an essay is put together
Week Thirteen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To read and understand Act 5 (the ending). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To analyse the significance of the happy ending linking to genre. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment preparation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment