Romeo and Juliet and West Side Story
Family Feud Lesson Plan

**Topic:** Reviewing the story elements of Romeo and Juliet and West Side Story

**Objectives:**

1. Students will recall the events of Romeo and Juliet and West Side Story from class readings, watching the video and the graphic organizers previously created

2. Students will reinforce their knowledge for use in creating their comparative essays

**Set Induction:** How can we review all of the elements we have learned during our unit of instruction on Romeo and Juliet and West Side Story in an engaging and memorable way?

**Content Outline:**

I. Plot Sequence

   a. Romeo & Juliet
      
      i. Romeo and his friends are at odds with a rival family
      
      ii. Juliet is betrothed to Paris
      
      iii. Romeo sees Juliet at a party and instantly they fall in love
      
      iv. Romeo and Juliet confess their love for another in the balcony scene
      
      v. Romeo and Juliet are married
      
      vi. Juliet’s cousin Tybalt kills Mercutio, Romeo’s best friend, and Romeo kills Tybalt
vii. Romeo and Juliet consummate their marriage

viii. Juliet makes a plan to join Romeo by faking her death

ix. Juliet’s message to Romeo does not reach him

x. Upon hearing that Juliet is dead, Romeo heads to her crypt and kills himself

xi. Upon waking up to Romeo’s dead body, Juliet kills herself

xii. Seeing both of their children dead, the Capulet’s and Montague’s unite in a funeral procession

b. West Side Story

i. Two feuding gangs confront one another

ii. Maria is introduced to a man who her family thinks will make a good husband for her, Chino

iii. Tony sees Maria at a dance and instantly they fall in love

iv. Tony and Maria confess their love for another in the balcony scene

v. Tony and Maria have a mock wedding were they are joined together symbolically

vi. Maria’s brother Bernardo kills Riff, Tony’s best friend, and Tony kills Bernardo

vii. Tony and Maria consummate their relationship

viii. Tony and Maria plan to run away together

ix. Maria’s message for Tony does not reach him

x. Chino kills Tony
xi. Maria admonishes the two gangs about their hateful ways, and they unite for a funeral procession

II. Themes

a. Romeo and Juliet

i. Love

1. Motivational
   a. Romeo and Juliet ignore their family feuds
   b. Romeo and Juliet give up all ties to their families to be married and be together forever

2. Violence and death
   a. Upon banishment, Romeo threatens to kill himself
   b. Juliet’s plot to seem dead to escape her marriage from Paris
   c. Romeo kills himself
   d. Juliet kills herself

ii. Futility of feuding
   1. 4 young people lose their lives for no good reason

iii. Risks of revenge
   1. Impetuous revenge leads to further death
      a. Romeo killing Tybalt
      b. West Side Story

   i. Love
      1. Motivational
a. Tony and Maria ignore their family feuds

b. Tony and Maria give up all ties to their families to run away and be together forever

2. Violence and death
   a. Chino kills Tony because of his love for Maria
   ii. Futility of feuding
      1. 3 young people lose their lives for no good reason
   iii. Risks of revenge
      1. Impetuous revenge leads to further death
         a. Tony killing Bernardo
         b. Chino killing Tony
   iv. Evils of prejudice
      1. Prejudice against Hispanic heritage results in the immediate formation of rivalries
         a. Sharks and Jets
         b. Irish policemen assume guilt on part of Puerto Ricans without evidence
      2. Groups are segregated by races and cannot intermingle socially
         a. Leads to deaths of Riff and Bernardo

III. Parallel Characters
   a. Romeo and Tony
   b. Juliet and Maria
c. Tybalt and Bernardo

d. Mercutio and Riff

e. The Nurse and Anita

f. Paris and Chino

g. Sampson and Action

h. Benvolio and Anyboys

i. Balthazar and Baby John

j. Friar Laurence and Doc

k. Prince Escalus and Office Krupke

l. Abraham and A-Rab

m. Sharks and Capulet’s

n. Jets and Montague’s

IV. Presentation format

a. Romeo and Juliet
   i. Play
   ii. Poetry: verse
   iii. Prologue

b. West Side Story
   i. Musical
   ii. Theatrical Performances: song and dance
   iii. Overture
Activities:

1. Take the number of students in the class, divide it by 2 and have the class count off up to that number twice (ex: if there are 22 students, the students would count to 11, twice)
2. Based on their numbers, the students will pair up
3. Assign 1 student from the group to be a character from Romeo and Juliet at random then ask their partner to guess who their parallel character is from West Side Story until everyone is assigned a character
4. Tell the students to separate to one side of the classroom if they are a Capulet or Shark, and the other side of the room if they are a Montague or Jet
5. If there are an odd number of students, ask the odd student to help keep score and reveal the answers
6. If there are not enough main characters to assign to students, lesser known characters can be assigned to students but their roles in the stories must be understood first
7. Printouts of the questions and answers will be needed to ask questions and keep track of which questions the students had difficulty answering
8. The students from one side of Romeo and Juliet will answer a question first, if they guess all the answers, they get the points, if they miss one, the students from the opposing Romeo and Juliet side will have a chance to steal the points if they can guess the missing answer
9. The students from the other group of Romeo and Juliet characters will then have a chance to answer their question. If they guess all the answers, they get the points, if they miss one, the students from the opposing Romeo and Juliet side will have a chance to steal the points if they can guess the missing answer.
10. The process repeats with the students from West Side Story until each side has been given a chance to answer no less than 2 questions original to their team (not a stolen question). A tie breaker may be needed.

11. The graphic organizers can be referred to for questions where the students are exhibiting difficulties.

12. A timer shall be used so that there is a 1 minute time limit to submit an answer to the question.

Modifications:

1. The game is suitable for students of all abilities levels as there are a range of difficulties in the questions and the answers.

2. The advanced reader should participate in the game with the rest of the class as they can offer answers that may aid the other students. The struggling reader can serve as the teacher’s aid by revealing the answers on the board so it will be assured that they are reading all the answers. They will also be more apt to pay attention and absorb the material that is being reviewed without the pressure of having to answer a question in front of the rest of the class.

Closure:

1. The students will return to their seats and the winner of the game will be announced.

2. Any questions that the students had particular difficulty answering will be reviewed.

Resources and Materials:

1. List of parallel characters

2. Timer
3. Smart board with PowerPoint of questions and answers or poster board with flaps over the answers that can be removed

4. Scoring Sheet

5. Printouts of the PowerPoint or typed versions of the poster boards

6. Pen

**Evaluation:**

Evaluation occurs during the game. If most questions were answered in their entirety, the class is ready to begin their essays

**Assignment:**

Following the completion of this and all subsequent lessons, the students will be required to complete a 5 page essay, comparing and contrasting the elements of both stories
Parallel Characters

1. Romeo and Tony
2. Juliet and Maria
3. Tybalt and Bernardo
4. Mercutio and Riff
5. The Nurse and Anita
6. Paris and Chino
7. Sampson and Action
8. Benvolio and Anyboys
9. Balthazar and Baby John
10. Friar Laurence and Doc
11. Prince Escalus and Office Krupke
12. Abraham and A-Rab
13. Sharks and Capulet’s
14. Jets and Montague’s
Family Feud Scoring Sheet

Each correct answer is worth 1 point

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Family Feud Questions and Answers

Romeo and Juliet

Question 1: Name the 3 elements of the plot that comprise the climax and the resolution

1. Romeo kills himself
2. Juliet kills herself
3. The Capulet’s and Montague’s forget their feuding and have a funeral procession

Question 2: Name the 3 people, besides Romeo and Juliet who are killed because of the feuding between the two families

1. Mercutio
2. Tybalt
3. Paris

Question 3: Name the 3 elements of the presentation format

1. Play
2. Poetry/verse
3. Prologue

Question 4: Name the 3 themes we studied

1. Love
2. Futility of feuding
3. Risks of revenge

Tie Breaker: Name 2 ways in which love is a motivating factor in the play

1. Romeo and Juliet ignore their family feuds
2. Romeo and Juliet give up all ties to their families to be married and be together forever
Family Feud Questions and Answers

West Side Story

Question 1: Name the 3 elements of the plot that comprise the event that leads to the climax, the climax and the resolution

1. Maria’s message for Tony does not reach him
2. Chino kills Tony
3. Maria admonishes the two gangs about their hateful ways, and they unite for a funeral procession

Question 2: Name the 3 people, who are killed because of the feuding between the two gangs

1. Riff
2. Bernardo
3. Tony

Question 3: Name the 3 elements of the presentation format

1. Musical
2. Theatrical Performances/song and dance
3. Overture

Question 4: Name 3 of the 4 themes we studied

1. Love
2. Futility of feuding
3. Risks of revenge/Evils of Prejudice

Tie Breaker: Name 2 ways in which love is a motivating factor in the movie

1. Tony and Maria ignore the feuds of their friends and families
2. Tony and Maria give up all ties to their families to run away and be together forever