Teaching Learning Succeeding

Subject: English Language Arts
Grade Level: High School
DI Strategy: Must Do/Can Do

Romeo and Juliet Must Do/Can Do Lesson

During our unit on *Romeo and Juliet*, I had my students complete a "Must Do/Can Do" activity. We were ready to start Act 3, Scene 1 and I wanted students to act out and analyze the scene in groups. I placed the students in heterogeneous groups based on their understanding of *Romeo and Juliet* so far. I also assigned who would be the Summary Master in each group. This needed to be a student who could act as the leader of the group. The following is the "Must Do" list that students were given:

"Must Do" (as a group):

1. Assign Roles
    a. Romeo/Lord Montague
    b. Benvolio
    c. Mercutio/Prince
    d. Tybalt/Citizen
    e. Summary Master/Stage Directions/Lady Capulet
2. Read Text
    a. Summary Master lead group to:
        i. Summarize
        ii. Answer study guide questions
            1. Stop after the following lines and complete the study guide:
                a. 73 (pg. 791)
                b. 122 (pg. 793)
                c. 137 (pg. 794)
                d. End of scene
        iii. Self assess
            1. 3- got it
            2. 2- need help
            3. 1- clueless
3. Move on to a "Can Do"

After completing all of the "Must Do" assignments, students moved onto the "Can Do" assignments listed below.

<u>"Can Do" (independently)</u>:

1. Get a computer- access class website
2. Review 3 assignments
3. Choose 1 to complete
4. Work independently
5. If finished early, work on anchor assignment: Vocab Activity 9
6. If you have an individual question, put name on the board

The list of "Can Do" assignments can be found below.

Act 3 Scene 1
"Can Do": Assignments

Directions: Review the following 3 assignments (*Romeo and Juliet* Advice Column, Sonnet, RAFT). Select **ONE** assignment to complete. Work on it independently. If you get stuck or have questions, put your name on the board and work on the anchor until I can help you.

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Option #1: Romeo and Juliet *Advice Column:*

Explanation: People are always in need of advice for life dilemmas. Newspapers, websites, friends – everyone has something to say.

Here is an example from the internet:

     LUCIE -- I am 15, and I like a 15 year-old girl. She feels the same. Her parents are pretty friendly and do like me, but they don't let her date. We still hang out at school every chance we get. At this rate, we will never get anywhere. What should I do? Talk to her parents? Ask her to?

<div align="right">-- NEED ADVICE --</div>

     NEED ADVICE -- For your sake, as well as her parents', see this as a family issue. Regardless of how well they like you, the what, when and who of her social freedoms are being determined by her parents. Some limits are already in place.

This girl should be the one to approach her parents. You getting involved could cause you to be perceived as intrusive and a bad influence.

Sometimes before dating is allowed, parents (especially smart ones) permit guys or girls their teens like to visit in their home. Parents consider this a safe, appropriate environment. Usually, the teens eat, watch TV/movie, play around on the computer, or just talk.

Your willingness to visit her will build trust and friendship. I suggest that be your first goal. Then, maybe ask her to visit your home.

I wish more guys would understand the importance of meeting a girl's family. If their intentions are pure, looking a parent squarely in the eye goes a long way in easing doubts.

Parents of boys like to meet the girls their sons like as well.

I understand that you like her. Please understand that you are young and need to take it slowly.

This assignment lets YOU be the advice columnist!

Pick a situation from *Romeo and Juliet*.

It could be, for example, **Romeo's depression over Rosaline**:

        -- one of his friends asking for advice on how to cheer him up, or

        -- Romeo asking for advice on either how to get Rosaline's attention, or

        -- Romeo asking for advice on how to get over Rosaline

Any of those would make good topics.

Keep in mind other situations:

- Juliet's and Romeo's families' hatred for each other: either could be writing for advice on how to deal with this situation
- Juliet's mother asking how to deal with her daughter who doesn't want to get married
- The nurse needing advice because she feels caught in the middle
- Mercutio needs advice on how to deal with a friend who is completely opposite of him
- Romeo needs advice about being exiled
- The Prince needs advice on how to deal with 2 feuding families/ Romeo's banishment
- Paris wants to get Juliet to fall in love with him
- There are many, many more possibilities! You are not limited to the choices above.

YOUR ASSIGNMENT:

1. Pick the situation you want to write about
2. As the character, **write a letter asking for advice**. Be sure to **include relevant background information** from the play.
3. Next, write a RESPONSE to the inquiry. It could be something you make up, or you could check out the internet for inspiration (www.lucie.com and www.teenadviceonline.org/dating were two good sites I found)

Here is an example:

I have a big crush on this girl in Verona named Rosaline. I know I love her because I just can't get her off of my mind. I have sent her letters and told her how I feel, but she says she wants to remain chaste and is not interested in a relationship right now. I decided to try to go to a party and convince her I'm the one for her. My cousin Benvolio insists I need to just look at other girls and that will get my mind off of Rosaline, but it isn't working! I feel like we are destined to be, but my friend Mercutio says that is just a waste of time, that nothing is predestined. I really, really want to be with her; how do I make her love me?

                                              -- Romeo of Verona

Dear Romeo:

You are suffering from a killer one-sided crush, also known as "*unrequited love*", and there really isn't much you can do to change it into a relationship. I'll be blunt. You cannot **make** somebody love you. You can't even make them like you. There are no magic spells or secret tricks that will make a person suddenly feel for you the way you feel for them. Love doesn't work like that (and thank the sweet stars above that it doesn't!). Love, when it is real and returned, is one of the most amazing feelings you will ever experience. Although it is hard to accept that this person doesn't return your feelings, it may help you to know that the pain you now feel will be erased from your heart when you find someone who **does** love you back.

Now back to the issue at hand, coping with your current crush. Since she has made his feelings for you clear, namely that she wants to be friends, you really only have one choice. You have to honor her feelings and wishes.   -Your Friend

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Option # 2: Sonnet Challenge

Directions: Write a Shakespearean sonnet that retells the events of Act 3 Scene 1, in Shakespearean language

Be sure to follow the Sonnet Guidelines:

- 14 lines
- 3 quatrains and 1 couplet: ABABCDCDEFEFGG
- Pentameter (If you can make it iambic, that would be impressive, but not required)
- 3 Quatrains = Problem; 1 Couplet = Solution

Make sure you incorporate specific details from the play

You can even take direct quotes and add them into your summation

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Option # 3: RAFT Assignment

Directions: Select from the RAFT options below. If you can think of one you would like to write that is not here, create it and then write your name on the board and I will call on you to check it with you when I can.

ROLE	AUDIENCE	FORMAT	TOPIC	Expectations
Romeo	Rosaline	romantic letter	"Why won't you love me?"	150 words
Citizen of Verona	Newspaper editor	letter to the editor	"This violence between the Capulets and Montagues must end"	150 words
Prince Escalus	Lord Capulet Lord Montague	royal document	"These are my terms and conditions."	150 words
Tybalt	Romeo	angry letter	"Thou art a villain"	150 words

Officer of the court	Citizens of Verona	banishment notice (i.e. "wanted" poster)	"Romeo Montague is banished!"	Includes images, text informing citizens of appearance, crime, consequences
Newspaper reporter	Citizens of Verona	two obituaries	"In Memory of..."	100 words each One for Mercutio One for Tybalt