William Shakespeare: *Othello* – Focus on Mgo, Othello and Desdemona

by Rita Reinheimer-Wolf



In dieser Einheit nalysien in die Schwerinnen und Schüler Auszüge aus der Tragödie Othello und ordner liese in die Schwerinnen und Schüler Auszüge aus der Tragödie Othello und ordner liese in die Schwerinnen lago, Othello und Desdemona auseinander. Mithilfe um die Gegenwerten inhaltliche und emotionale Zugänge zu der Tragödie für junge voreinnen und Leser geschaffen. Hierbei erarbeiten die Lernenden auch, wo sich Aussage ides Stückes auf die Gegenwart übertragen lassen und bewerten das Dram.



William Shakespeare: Othello – Focus on Iago, Othello and Desdemona

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Competences 2 kills:

By working with the materies the play *Othello*, students enhance their **reading skills**. Furthermore, the practice their competences in **explaining and analysing texts** where the closely of extracts from the drama. Students' **speaking skills** are improve to by holding thort presentations/speeches, engaging in a discussion and a hot seat activity as well as lagging a trial at court. Finally, students' **writing competence** is entering two comments.

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Overview:

List of abbreviations:

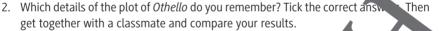
C Comment CH Characterisation CT Creative task
D Discussion/debate G Group work IN Interview
MC Multiple choice PM Placemat PR Presentation
RC Reading comprehension RP Role play T Working with a

W Writing

Topic	Material	Method Skills
1: What do I think of Shakespeare and his work?	M ² M5	MC PR, T
2: Who is Iago — A misogynist, a jealous man or merely a sociopath?	M6	СН, D, T, W
3: Who is Othello – Just a lovesick outsider?	IM8	C, G, IN, PM, T, W
4: Who is Desdemona – Just a victim of Othello's aggressiveness?	M9-M10	C, PM, T, W
5: Shakespeare, Othello and me	11-M13	MC, RP, W
Exam: William Shakespeare: Othello		CT, RC, T

Worksheet - The plot of Othello

1. Use the information from the grid (M2) to prepare a short speech on the context of Othello.



C Paris)
•	

M3

- a) How is the Turkish fleet destroyed?
 - □ By Othello
 - □ By Cassio
 - □ By a storm
- b) Which position does Brabantio hold in Venice?
 - □ Duke
 - □ Colonel
 - □ Senator
- c) From whom did Othello inherit the handk rchief?
 - ☐ His mother
 - His grandmother
 - His godmother
- d) Why did Desdemona first fall in love with Othello?
 - □ Because of his wealth
 - ☐ Because of his physical stre. *th
 - □ Because of the stories he told as ut his past
- e) Which of the following edjectives are most commonly applied to lago throughout the play?
 - □ Brave
 - □ Honest
 - □ Intelliger
- f) How is De demona tilled by he husband?
 - □ He sno her,
 - □ He smother er.
 - bs her
- g) //hat is the een-eyed monster"?
 - Greed
 - □ 'Yate
- h) Who will replace Othello as governor of Cyprus?
 - lago
 - assio
 - □ Lodovico

Worksheet - Who is Othello?

M8

Pre-reading activity

1. In a placemat activity, decide on possible consequences for an individual was being an outsider.



Working with the extracts

- 2. Referring to the extracts, answer the following questions in full sentences.
 - A: Which state of mind is Othello in when he utters these strences?

 - C: Outline the message Othello conveys in this quota.
 - D: Why does Othello start to question his decision to man
 - E: Which conclusion does Othello draw concerning his wife's a good infidelity?
 - F: What has changed in Othello's emotional fe?
 - G: Why does Othello find his situation unbears
 - H: What does Othello accuse himself

Creative task

3. In a group of three students, prepare restions for a hot seat with Othello. Two students interview Othellowho is represented by the third student in your group.





Comment

4. Write a commerce the following statement: Racism as portrayed in William Shakespeare's Othello has been vercome by our society nowadays.



M12 Worksheet - A trial at court



Prepare a trial at court in which Othello is charged with responsibility for the death of his wife Desdemona. Use the following role cards.

Defending lawyer

You make your speech giving reasons for Othello's innocer. You describe how Othello was pushed into jealousy. You also stress the main misunderstanding yout the handkerchief. You emphasise the bravery and outstanding skill of Othello in the war. You also emphasise how difficult Othello's social life much have been because he was marginalised.

Prosecut or

You accuse Othello of being guilty and of leving the same on purpose. You question Othello during the trial and try to prove ms guilt an responsibility.

····daa

You listen to everyone and only ask questions occasionally. At the end of the hearing, you come to a conclusion and pronounce the verdict.

Witnesses: fo example go, Desdemona's father

(Note: the witnesses conclude both living and dead characters.)

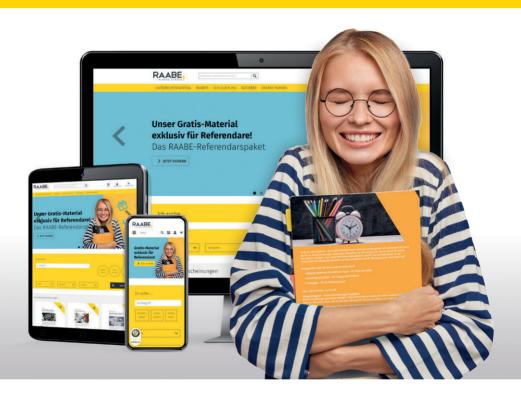
lago: You accus of the poof being a extremely jealous sociopath. You emphasise that Othello he fought ha war, and you think him to be used to killing people. You have heard Other halfing appearailling Desdemona. You do not consider Othello fit to adapt to the Western Sture because he is still African in his heart.

Desdr nona Scher: You are still angry because your daughter has disobeyed you. You have stopped a lieving in your daughter and do not believe in her innocence in the thought. You consider Desdemona to be responsible for her own death. You are anytined that Othe to is a brave man not to be blamed but who has become insane by the infidences of his wife. You do not see Othello as a murderer.



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