

Lesson ideas and material

***As You Like It* (William Shakespeare)**



Based on: Act 3 Scene 3*

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Plot summary of the act/scene

In this scene, Rosalind reads a love poem. The poem praises her beauty, but she does not know yet that the author is Orlando. Touchstone reacts to the poem with jokes full of sexual implications, mocking the romantic language with a more cynical take on love.

Teaching aims

Students interpret an authentic text about love and work on the different attitudes Orlando, Rosalind and Touchstone have regarding love. By rewriting Shakespeare's love poems, they reflect on modern ideas of love.

Description of materials

The following material consists of:

- tandem worksheet for partner A and B, along with an expectation grid for teachers

Other required material and equipment:

- song "Beautiful things" by Benson Boone (available on YouTube, e.g. lyric video: <https://youtu.be/HUO8BcK5SUY?si=nPfFJbShPfeGAQar>)
- Students should have an annotated copy of the play or scene, as well as mobile devices (including headphones) to research modern love poems or songs.



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***[As You Like It, CSS edition]** Shakespeare, William: *As You Like It* (Cambridge School Shakespeare, edited by Linzy Brady). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015.

Overview of lesson design:

Phase / Teaching activity / Impulse	Material
Activity 1 [individual work] Teacher plays the song “Beautiful Things” by Benson Boone while students follow along with the lyrics. Students are asked to listen and summarise the key aspects of the song.	<i>Benson Boone - Beautiful Things</i>
Activity 2 [individual work] Students outline the content of the poem on their worksheet.	Worksheet Love Poem A and B
Activity 3 [partner work] Students complete the chart with their partner and present their results in the plenary.	Worksheet Love Poem A and B
Activity 4 [individual work] Students choose one of the two poems they have been working on and transfer it into a modern love poem. They can use modern media sources like song lyrics as an inspiration.	Mobile devices, Worksheet Love Poem A and B
Activity 5 [plenary discussion] Some students can read their love poems out loud. The listeners are asked to note the attitude that is conveyed and decide which of the two poems the student worked on.	Students' poems



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