

Read and Analyse Poetry Examples from Different Religions

Summary

The activity gives the teachers some resources of poetry from different religions to work with in class.

Description of the activity

Students form groups, each group chooses a religion and studies a poem about/from that religion. Each group read poems in the class and explains their interpretation of the poem and discusses similarities and differences with the other poems, with guided questions like:

- Why do poets and authors use figurative language (such as metaphors and similes) in their writing?
- What type of imagery is used in a certain poem?
- What do they believe the element of imagery represents in the poem's theme?

Activity structure

- **Preferred premises of the activity:** the activity can be held in class, in school.
- **Resources needed:** A white/black board, projector, poem printed for each group of students to have it in front of them.
- **Recommended number of people participating:** a class of students (between 15-30 people)
- **Previous knowledge of participants necessary:** It might be helpful if students have some previous knowledge about different religions and the most important messages about values they communicate.
- **Activity duration:** As a onetime event or several events during the school year.

Learning Objectives

Students to acquire knowledge about values and virtues in life, which are formed in the different religions and how they are expressed in poetic form.

Expected Outcomes

Students will learn about the specific poetic forms and how major religious beliefs are represented by using this specific type of art.

Target group

Students between 13 and 18 years of age

Subject of the curriculum in which the activity could be implemented

Literature
Philosophy
Arts
History
Geography





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Learning style of this activity

Verbal, Social

Learning objects to be used with this activity

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/collections/144559/poems-of-muslim-faith-and-islamic-culture>

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/collections/145081/poems-of-jewish-faith-and-culture-5a25dd01ab61d>

<https://www.christart.com/poetry/category/309/1>

<http://www.poemsource.com/Christian-poems.html>

Variations of the activity

The activity can also be done using poetry from contemporary poets to reflect upon similarities and differences in using poetic forms in different religions at the present time.



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