

Experiential Learning

Lesson: My Mother at Sixty Six (Poem)

Activity name	Break down the poem
Level	XII
Skill	Reciting, Speaking, synthesizing
Time	1 period of 40 minutes
Grouping of students	Pairs
Materials	Pen and paper for each student

Learning Outcomes: The students will be able to:

- recite the poem
- paraphrase the poem 'My Mother at Sixty-six' by Kamla Das
- identify the figures of speech used in the poem
- justify the title of the poem
- analyse the important phrases in the poem

Teacher Activity- Teacher will:

- select lines that are both interesting and can spur a good conversation
- decide appropriate stopping points where you think your students need to delve deeper and gain a greater understanding
- create four queries for each group (questions to encourage critical thinking) for each stopping point

Ex: What is the author trying to say?

Ex: Why do you think the poet used the following phrase?

Ex: Does this make sense to you?"

Student Activity- Students will:

- read the poem aloud with the partner
- take turns to read the poem so that each gets a chance to read
- work together to answer given questions for analysis

Stages:

- Setting up (giving instructions – guidelines, objectives, rules, time limit): 5 minutes
- Preparation time: 10 minutes
- Conversation: 15 minutes
- Discussion and feedback: 10 minutes

Title of Poem: My Mother at Sixty Six

Poetry Analysis Questions:

- How is the poem different from a story?

- How many verses does it have?

- How many stanzas are there?

- Does it rhyme? If yes, give some examples. If no, comment on the lack of it.

- Read the poem again and try to picture what the author is describing. Talk to your partner about what you saw while reading. Make a list of the words and phrases that appealed to your senses. Write them below. If there is no evidence for any particular sense, put a cross (X).

Sight: _____

Smell: _____

Hear: _____

Touch: _____

Taste: _____

- Write down any comparative devices (similes, metaphors) you find:

Simile:

First object

like/as

Second object

Ex: My head

as

a horse

Metaphor:

First object

linking word

Second object

Ex: She

is

a ray of sunshine

- Identify examples of personification and complete the chart given below

Object

Physical Characteristics

- Identify other poetic devices in the poem and explain their use. For this task, Literary Devices definitions will be shown to students for an enhanced understanding and analysis of the poetic devices. Then they will complete the Literary Devices exercise.

S. No	Poetic Device	Words/Sentence(s)/Phrase from text	Use

My Mother at Sixty Six
Poetry Theme Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Class/Sec: _____

A theme is the central message of a literary work that the author wishes to convey to the reader.

Ex. loyalty, hope, courage, love, identity, success etc....

Directions: Write the theme of the poem in the box below

Theme:

Write 3 lines from the poem that back up your theme.

Explain the significance of your lines.

Why is the title important and how does it set the context of the poem?
