

**Lesson Plan:
Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
March 20, 2012**

Grade Level: 12

Subject Area: English 12 Flip (BHS)

Materials Needed:

- Textbook with *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*
- Handouts: Daily grammar, Countdown from 5, Modern movie Script, TPS questions (for teacher)
- Pencil, paper

Standards:

- 12.2.4. Read for a variety of purposes and intents; e.g., to become life-long readers, to model forms of writing, etc.
- 12.2.5. Interpret author's use of figurative language including allusion, imagery, and symbolism
- 12.2.6. Interpret author's use of syntax and word choice/diction
- 12.2.7. Critique literary merit of a work of literature
- 12.2.8. Use technical language/jargon to decipher meaning
- 12.4.4. Use critical listening responses, such as refutation and commentary, to critique the accuracy of messages
- 12.6.2. Apply figurative language; i.e., allusion, analogy, hyperbole, irony, personification, oxymoron, and paradox
- 12.6.3. Interpret the use of language in different literary forms; i.e., satire and parody

Objectives:

1. TLW practice basic grammar.
2. TLW analyze *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*.
3. TLW engage in critical thinking about literature by creating a movie script.

Learning Activities:

1. Daily Grammar.
2. *3-2-1* or *Countdown from 5*
3. *Think-Pair-Share* – Students will have 30 seconds to answer questions independently on a sheet of lined paper. Then they will have 30 seconds to turn to a partner and discuss their answers and justify them. Then I will collect some general answers orally and discuss with entire class.
4. *Modern Movie Script*: Students will divide into groups of 3 and create a script for a movie. Criteria will be determined and discussed.

Assessments:

Assessment will be done through informal observations as I walk around the room while students work, ask questions, and gauge the amount and enthusiasm of student participation. They will have written evidence of learning in their answers to the Think-Pair-Share questions and the movie scripts.

Reflection:

Once again, I was lucky enough to be in Dr. Werner's classroom. She had already been working with her students on the prerequisite knowledge in terms of analyzing literature; they all understood that they were expected to do the reading the night before as homework; they were accustomed to classroom discussions; and they were comfortable with each other and their own skills when working together. As far as how I did, there were a few things that did not go according to plan. I was pretty nervous to begin with so it was a good experience for me to have to deal with the nerves while in performance mode in front of the classroom. The quiz at the beginning of class took longer than expected, but I felt it was important as far as recalling knowledge for the remainder of the lesson as well as to hold the students accountable for the reading assignment. From there, I had to accommodate for time by picking and choosing with Think-Pair-Share questions I wanted to be sure to get in. At the end of the lesson, I did not have time for the Movie Script activity, but Dr. Werner will be finishing the lesson with the class in my absence. As far as student learning, I think the lesson went pretty well. The students were engaged during the classroom discussion because I made sure to set it up where each student was almost forced to participate in some way, whether they felt more comfortable in their smaller groups or with the entire class. They had good and mostly correct thoughts and ideas when it came to answering the questions and I had the opportunity to adjust their thinking if it was slightly off. When I had to readjust, students seemed to catch on quickly or continue to ask questions if they were still unsure. It seemed like it went pretty well all around and it was a learning experience for me in terms of timing lessons to fit in the frame of a class period.

Sir Gawain Countdown from 5

5: Reading questions:

Who is the protagonist of the story?

Who is the antagonist?

Who challenges King Arthur's court at the banquet?

How long is the time period between the first blow and the second blow?

Who is the Green Knight?

4: Interpretive questions

Why does Gawain accept the challenge?

Why does Gawain accept only the green sash?

What does Gawain accomplish by the end?

What is Gawain's major flaw?

3: Name 3 elements of a Romantic hero.

2: Identify 2 items Gawain is offered by the lady of the castle.

1: Explain one rule of courtly love or chivalry evident in *Sir Gawain* that is still relevant today.

Think-Pair-Share Questions

1. What is one example of alliteration in the text? What is its function?
2. Why do you think Sir Gawain accepts the challenge?
 - Feels he must; to defend the castle; to defend his honor; thinks he can kill the Knight and never get the second blow himself
3. What is the difference between the reactions of Arthur and Gawain and the reactions of the rest of the banqueters when the Green Knight shows up? How does this affect your reading of Sir Gawain?
4. When the length of one year is over, would you embark on the journey to meet the Green Knight? Why or why not?
5. Why is Gawain “alarmed” if he is only exchanging “innocent kisses” with the lady?
6. What is one example from the text in which Gawain experiences a moral conflict? Explain.
 - Lines 71 to 76: morals of a knight to honor his host and honor the lady’s every command
 - Lines 156 to 170: victory and honor in winning, honoring his host, honoring the lady
7. Why is Gawain always reluctant to accept the gifts offered him by the lady of the castle?
8. What textual clue helps us understand that the scarf will later be used in battle with the Green Knight (foreshadowing)?
9. Why does Gawain refuse to give his host the green sash when the lord returns from the third hunt?
10. What are the physical descriptions of the Green Chapel meant to suggest to the reader about the situation at hand and about the Green Knight?

11. Why does the Green Knight keep Gawain waiting when he arrives at the Green Chapel?
12. Explain how the Pearl Poets uses suspense when he creates the scene in which Gawain and the Green confront each other.
13. What is the connection between the three days Gawain spends in the castle and the three strokes the Green Knight takes in battle with Gawain?
14. Who is the Green Knight?
15. What is Gawain's major redeeming quality as a knight? What is his major flaw?

SIR GAUAIN MODERN MOVIE SCRIPT

1. Within your group, choose one “scene” from the poem that stands out to you and that you feel is important.
2. Act as script writers for a modern movie industry. You will write a script for the scene you chose that will become part of a major motion picture depicting the Pearl Poet’s *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. The movie is expected to be a blockbuster hit.
3. Your script must...
 - Be interesting to a modern audience. Use language that would be familiar and understandable to a modern audience as well as exciting and engaging.
 - Be accurate according to the text.
 - Emphasize the importance of the scene to the entire poem.