



The Sutton Academy

Knowledge Rich Curriculum Plan

The Handmaid's Tale [Year 12]

Lesson/Learning Sequence	Intended Knowledge: <i>Students will know that...</i>	Tiered Vocabulary	Prior Knowledge: <i>In order to know this students, need to already know that...</i>	Written link the wider curriculum	Assessment
Lesson 1	Students will understand how Offred's situation begins to change in chapter twenty-four of the novel. They will also see how the character begins to develop, even laughing at the absurd situation in which she finds herself. Students will understand the significance of privacy in the novel, both the deprivation of privacy and the unusual ways in which the women find it.	Doppelgänger – an apparition or double of a living person.	Students will need to understand the character of Offred and the situation she is in at this point in the novel.		
Lesson 2	Students will understand the specific writings around women's mental health in literature. We will refer to reference book The Mad Women in the Attic and The Yellow Wallpaper in this lesson. Students will explore some of the literary precedent around women's mental health and typical tropes to look for in texts of this sort.	Hysteria – antiquated term for a psychological disorder characterised by conversion of psychological stress into physical symptoms or a change in self-awareness.	Students will need to know about literary precedent and how it informs our reading.		
Lesson 3	Students will consolidate their understanding of The Feminine Mystique, a text which they read as part of their home learning last half term. We will explore the impact this text made on writers like Atwood and other women writers in the nineteen sixties.	Mystique - a quality of mystery, glamour, or power associated with someone or something.	Students need to understand the importance of characterisation - this will allow some recall work from their study during half term one.		
Lesson 4	Students will know how the character of Moira is crafted and what she represents in terms of Offred's past and what she symbolises in terms of Atwood's message.	Swoon - faint, especially from extreme emotion. To be overcome with admiration, adoration.	Students need to know some of the key genre conventions of a dystopian text.		

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Lesson 5	Students will examine Chapter 26 with the character of The Commander in mind, we will consider the question of power and powerlessness in the novel and the gender- lines on which power is often drawn in this text.	Alienation - Social alienation is a situation in which individuals feel disconnected.	Students need to understand the importance of characterisation - this will allow some recall work from their study during half term one.		
Lesson 6	Assessment Lesson	Erotic - relating given context.	Students will build on their previous learning around essay writing and writing under timed conditions.		
Lesson 7	Students will understand how genre conventions can be identified in Chapter Twenty-Eight of the text making links to their previous learning and embedding their understanding of Offred how she fits into the broader literary tradition.	Portmanteau - a word blending the sounds and combining the meanings of two others, for example <i>motel</i> or <i>brunch</i>.	Students need to know how writers are able to make social commentary through their work.		
Lesson 8	Feedback Lesson	.Reflection	Students will reflect on their previous work, in line with teacher feedback they will make improvements.		

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Lesson 9	Students to explore Chapter 25, examining Offred's transformation and learning how Atwood uses natural imagery. Students to examine the Characterisation of the Commander and Offred and how Atwood shapes our perception of the characters.	Totalitarian Authoritarian	Student to recap flashback on the coup and use of analepsis throughout the text so far.		
Lesson 10	Students will learn about				
Lesson 11	Students will learn about	Antiquated – (adjective) old-fashioned or outdated. Darwinian - the theory of the evolution of species by natural selection.	Students will use their prior knowledge of the play so far in our discussions. This will also shape their predictions about the play going forward.	Macbeth – Violence and Conflict	
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Lesson 14	Students will learn about	Antiquated – (adjective) old-fashioned or outdated. Darwinian - the theory of the evolution of species by natural selection.	Students will use their prior knowledge of the play so far in our discussions. This will also shape their predictions about the play going forward.	Macbeth – Violence and Conflict	
Lesson 15	Students will learn about the “Old South” in order to shape their understanding of the DuBois family and their antiquated view of the world. They will know that from a cultural and social standpoint, the "Old South" is used to describe the rural, agriculturally-based, slavery-reliant economy and society in the American South, prior to the American Civil War. Students will learn how the territorial Stanley could see the arrival of Blanche as a threat to his home, his wife and his unborn child. Which is perhaps why he attacks her and aims to destroy her.	Antiquated – (adjective) old-fashioned or outdated. Darwinian - the theory of the evolution of species by natural selection.	Students will use their prior knowledge of the play so far in our discussions. This will also shape their predictions about the play going forward.		

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