

Ms. Geoghegan

English 1

Lesson Topic: Vocabulary Acquisition for Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas

Lesson Objectives:

By the end of the lesson, students will:

- successfully have learned and comprehended two vocabulary words from the list of 30
- understand that in order to learn a word and add it to one's vocabulary, it must be used several times and in several different ways

Lesson duration:

1 1/2 class periods (about 70 minutes)

Tasks:

- At the beginning of class, tell students that they will be working on vocabulary from the past section of chapters for The Count of Monte Cristo.
- Hand out the vocabulary worksheet, which is 30 vocabulary words to be matched with a definition in the opposite column. Have students work on this worksheet. They can work by themselves or with a partner. They can use dictionaries or a dictionary app on their phone. (20 minutes)
- Ask students to head back to their seats. Go over the answers of the worksheet with students. (5 minutes)
- Tell students they will now have a quiz over all 30 vocabulary words. Watch students freak out. Ask them why they're freaking out. Students will always respond, "We will fail the quiz. We don't know these words." Ask them why they don't know the words. They just completed a worksheet on them. Lead a discussion of how to actually learn vocabulary and add words to their vocabularies. (10 minutes)
- Hand students a blank sheet of paper. Ask them to fold it into fourths. They will pick two words from the list, preferably ones they didn't know before class. In one box, they will look up and copy the dictionary definition. In another box, they will put the definition in their own words. In the third box, they need to use the word in a sentence. The sentence must show that they understand what the word means. In the fourth box, students need to draw a picture that represents the meaning of the word. (15 minutes)
- After the student is finished with their boxes, hand them a container of Play-doh and tell them they need to create a sculpture that represents the definition of the word. (10 minutes)
- After all students have created their sculptures, students then briefly present their sculptures to the class, using their word in the description. (20 minutes)
- The next day, as an exit ticket, ask the students to write their words on a scrap piece of paper along with a definition. Hopefully after working with the words in multiple ways, the students will remember them. (5 minutes)