

This idea was pitched so that every student could access the task and go as far as they could with it. The tasks begin with highlighting, then move through the coloured arrows (with ever-increasing challenge), from green to purple. Though this is English-centric, it can be applied to any subject. In a mixed ability class, those who finish quickly could be used as “experts” as referred to in F. Ruffle’s CPD session. I have used this in every lesson with my low-ability year 9 class and they love the simplicity, independence and challenge it gives them.

To be able ANALYSE the language Shakespeare uses in “the balcony scene”

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ROMEO

He jests at scars that never felt a wound.

JULIET appears above at a window

But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks?

It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.

Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon,

Who is already sick and pale with grief,

That thou her maid art far more fair than she:

Be not her maid, since she is envious;

Her vestal livery is but sick and green

And none but fools do wear it; cast it off.

It is my lady, O, it is my love!

O, that she knew she were!

She speaks yet she says nothing: what of that?

Her eye discourses; I will answer it.

I am too bold, 'tis not to me she speaks:

Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven,

Having some business, do entreat her eyes

To twinkle in their spheres till they return.

What if her eyes were there, they in her head?

The brightness of her cheek would shame those stars,

As daylight doth a lamp; her eyes in heaven

Would through the airy region stream so bright

That birds would sing and think it were not night.

See, how she leans her cheek upon her hand!

O, that I were a glove upon that hand,

That I might touch that cheek!

It is night time. What is Romeo comparing Juliet to? What's the technique?

What's the technique here? Does the “envious moon” that is “sick and pale with grief” remind you of anybody from earlier in the play?

What does Romeo describe as “twinkling”? What are the connotations of this and how does it link to “sun”?

What is Romeo saying here? What techniques are used?

How do the quotes “the sun”; “eyes to twinkle in their spheres”; and “brightness of her cheek” contrast with Romeo’s first impression of love?