

Appendix 1: Implementing Common Core Standards

RL4: Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.

This is a component that is central in analyzing Renaissance poetry. Determining figurative language and connotative meanings is a part of the sonnet explication process.

W1: Write arguments to support claim in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

Students will practice this standard as they seek to answer provided textual analysis questions for discussion panels. Students must be able to use textual evidence to defend their answers during the panel discussions.

W5: Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, and rewriting

As students prepare for group presentations, discussion panels, and completing final drafts of original sonnets they will continue to edit and revise their work.

W9: Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

Students will conduct research to create power point presentations on the life and time of William Shakespeare. Students will not only use literary texts, but include information text to support their assertions about the societal and cultural influences that affected the author's work.

SL6: Adapt speech to a variety of contexts tasks, demonstrating a command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.

The unit will include several projects in which students must prepare and present formally in front of the class. Presentations will include a power point presentation, sharing original sonnets, and participating in discussion panels.

L3: Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts.

Students will draw on their knowledge of modern English to make connections with words and phrases of Renaissance language. This prior knowledge and understanding will help students interpret the literature from the unit.

L5: Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings. During Sonnet explication students will identify figurative language and how it affects the literary text. In addition, students will use figurative language as they create original sonnets.