

Cercles de Lecture (Reading Circles)

By Laetitia Desanti

Description:

In this multiple-class activity, students analyze a 19th-century French Fantasy short story which provides them with reading and comprehension strategies, such as reading advanced French texts beyond the surface level and asking the right text-related questions. See a full description [here](#).



Out of Class (Instructor)



Out of Class (Students)



In Class (Instructor)



In Class (Students)

Legend

Context Icons:

- Individual Work
- Work in Groups
- Whole Class

Task Icons:

- Discuss
- Analyze
- Present
- Instructor Orchestration
- Instructor Evaluation

Introduce Activity

- Present a wide range of reading strategies to accommodate different student learning types (note taking on paper or online and questions to ask while reading)
- Give an introduction to the activity of Reading Circles
- Guide the students through an application of the strategies presented using a short text

Discuss the Themes of the Readings

Discuss the theme that will relate to the text that will be read for the activity (death, ghosts, or vampires).

Read and Analyze the Text

- Read "Masque de la mort rouge" using one of the three formats provided (paper, electronic, or audio)
- Analyze and annotate the text using different colored post-it notes, writing in the margins, etc. within their chosen roles.
- Contribute the notes to a class-wide google doc (highlighting and defining vocabulary words, inserting comments related to certain passages of the text, and posing questions they had while reading)
- Prepare for the in-class activity, by answering questions or outline the narrative structure of the text

Share Analysis

Present the analysis of the text from a unique perspective (within their chosen roles).

Discuss Perspectives and Roles

Discuss the perspective the presenter has adopted or role they are playing (for example, if the student's role is a linguist they might bring a word bank to go over with their group or analyze the language in a certain passage).

Facilitate Discussion

Encourage students to synthesize and consolidate what they worked on in their groups by prompting them with questions related to the reading.

Assess Students' Reading Notes

Collect the reading notes and evaluate them to assess whether or not the students have succeeded in reading beyond the surface level.



Share Favorite Activity



Give a presentation to the class of their favorite group activity.

Note: There is an option to instead individually prepare a project related to the reading and discussion.

• • •

