



Strauss' *Arabella*
Sample Lesson Plan: What is debt?

GRADE LEVELS	6 - 12
TIMING	50 minutes
PRIOR KNOWLEDGE	N/A
AIM OF LESSON	Students will be introduced to the plot of Strauss' <i>Arabella</i> through the lens of how debt affects families.
OBJECTIVES	Students will be introduced to the plot of Strauss' <i>Arabella</i> . Students will explore the concept of debt.
CURRICULAR CONNECTIONS	Language Arts: English and/or German Music & the Performing Arts Math
MATERIALS	Projector, Screen, Speakers Computers Whiteboard & whiteboard markers (or chart paper) <i>Arabella</i> Synopsis: https://sfopera.com/1819season/arabella/synopsis/ What Makes Gambling So Addicting? (2:11): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJWQvQ25hvg Inside the brain of gambling addict-BBC News (3:42): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BF5SzIN63w8
NATIONAL STANDARDS/ STATE STANDARDS	<u>CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.6</u> Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the United States, drawing on a wide reading of world literature.
INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES	Introduction (5-10 Minutes) What is gambling and how does it create debt? Ask the students to share what they know about gambling. Do casinos want gamblers to win? What's the probability of winning a gamble? Watch the YouTube videos above as desired. <i>Arabella</i> (10 Minutes) Tell students that the opera they will be going to see is <i>Arabella</i> , composed by Richard Strauss at the age of 71, and first produced in 1933. The libretto was

	<p>written by Hugo von Hofmannsthal, their sixth and final collaboration before his death in 1929.</p> <p>Read the synopsis as a class, pointing out these key points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arabella's father's gambling habits. • Arabella's parents' decision to raise their second daughter, Zdenka, as a boy. • Arabella's parents wanting to marry off Arabella to a wealthy man to ease their financial problems. <p>Student Group Activity (30 - 40 Minutes)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In teams of 4 - 6 students, using calculators and individual laptops students will research about credit, gambling, and debt. • Possible resources: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Beginners Guide to Debt: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kM Zw30MKnxw. ○ Family Guy Credit Card Debt: https://youtu.be/jfZU3ckGi4Q ○ Fox News Credit Card Debt: https://youtu.be/jelcgBiCmfU ○ KQED "The Odds of Gambling": https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/shows/gamble/odds/odds.html ○ ABC News 5 "The best and worst casino game odds": https://www.news5cleveland.com/money/consumer/dont-waste-your-money/before-you-go-gambling-the-best-and-worst-casino-game-odds <p>Students will use chart paper and make a presentation on how people can get into serious debt and develop a plan for how they can get themselves out of debt. Create a solution for people who are finding it difficult to save money. Consider questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) what are the different types of debt? 2) what debt-related challenges are we facing as a nation? 3) what impact can debt have on a person/family? 4) what strategies can you use to avoid being in the situation of Arabella's parents?
LEARNING SUPPORTS & ACCOMODATIONS	Groups of 2, 4, or 6 depending on the classroom. Students are allowed to watch videos and do research on their phones.
EXTENSION	Encourage students to discuss their household finances with their families.
ASSESSMENTS	Students will be able to describe <i>Arabella</i> . Students will be able to describe the concept of debt.