



SAN FRANCISCO OPERA EDUCATION

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=kMZw30MKnxw. ○ 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	<p>Groups of 2, 4, or 6 depending on the classroom.</p> <p>Students are allowed to watch videos and do research on their phones.</p>
EXTENSION	<p>Encourage students to discuss their household finances with their families.</p>
ASSESSMENTS	<p>Students will be able to describe <i>Arabella</i>.</p> <p>Students will be able to describe the concept of debt.</p>