



Lesson: Evaluating Characters

STANDARD: New York Strand # 3: Making Connections

- Analyze, critique and review performance from a range of styles and genres in live venues, film and video by identifying production and dramatic elements, including:
 - plot
 - time, place, setting
 - characters and relationships among characters
 - major themes
 - moral and ethical conflicts
 - dramatic structures such as narrative, dialogue and monologue
- Compare and contrast examples of dramatic literature from different periods and/or cultures.
- Analyze, critique and review performance from a range of styles and genres in live venues, film and video by identifying production and dramatic elements.
- Demonstrate the ability to analyze the critiques and reviews of others.

Literacy: Evaluating Characters in Conflict

Motivation: View the introduction to *Othello* and Mr. Elizondo's performance of *Othello*. What does Iago's character seem like to you? What evidence do you have to support your claim? Refer to Iago's monologue as well as his demeanor. Students can journal and think-pair-share.

Group Activity: View "Villainy" and "Iago's Self Esteem." How does Mr. Elizondo view Iago? Did this differ from your view? Do you think Mr. Elizondo got his impression of Iago across? Why or why not? Also discuss the purpose of Iago in the play. How does Mr. Elizondo describe Iago's purpose? What were some conflicts in *Othello*? What were some conflicts you expected to see but did not?

Independent Activity: Perform a monologue which you think clearly shows the purpose of a character in *Othello* or clearly present the conflict in *Othello*. After choosing, discuss your choice. What themes do you see in the monologue? What themes are left out? What is the purpose of the monologue? How does the monologue further your understanding of the character?