



**International Center
for Leadership
in Education**



Gold Seal Lesson:

Copernicus Education Gateway

Author(s): David Nohara			Lesson Title: Reworking the Classics			
Grade Span			ICLE Application Model			
K-4	5-8	9-12 XX	A	B	C	D XX

Instructional Focus:

Writing—Students write for a variety of purposes and audiences with sophistication and complexity appropriate to the grade level

Performance Task

Famous works of literature have often been reset in a different time period or in another culture to make the story more appealing (e.g., *Romeo and Juliet*). Working in groups, students act as movie producers looking to make a new film from an old story. They select a work they recently read for class and change its time and place (culture). They then write an outline for the movie, describing the main characters, setting, and plot, and a comparison of the two stories. Their comparisons should address the following:

- What would be different about the characters and the situations?
- Would the original conflict still be possible in the new setting? If not the exact same conflict, what similar conflict might be possible?
- If the original story involves actual events, what similar events exist in the new setting?
- Would conflicts be resolved differently?
- Are there any aspects of the original story that are tied so closely to the cultural and historical setting that they cannot be placed in another setting?

ICLE Essential Skills

Understand the personal, social, cultural and historical significance of a text. (ela 23)

Use writing as a strategy for comparing, contrasting, synthesizing ideas, concepts and generalizations from a variety of literary sources. (ela 39)

Participate, sometimes leading, in group meetings by contributing, taking turns speaking, and working toward a common goal. (ela 20)

Scoring Guide:

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Understanding of original work (25 points)	18-25 points Demonstrates understanding of key facts of story, with appreciation of more subtle aspects, such as theme or underlying (implied) statement or meaning	9-17 points Demonstrates understanding of key facts of story	0-8 points Understanding of original story either incomplete or incorrect
Outline (15 points)	11-15 points New story outline complete in terms of characters, setting, and plot; thoroughly addresses all major aspects of original story	6-10 points New story outline complete in terms of characters, setting, and plot; several major aspects of original story may not be addressed	0-5 points New story outline incomplete; connection to original story unclear
Comparison (30 points)	20-30 points Shows appreciation of influence of setting on characters and plot; demonstrates ability to discern story aspects bound by setting from universal themes.	10-19 points Shows appreciation of influence of setting on characters and plot; attempts, but may struggle with, transportation of themes across boundaries of time and culture.	0-9 points Shows lack of appreciation of influence of setting on characters and plot; does not attempt transportation of themes across boundaries of time and culture; focuses on superficial aspects of story.
Language use (30 points)	20-30 points Organized clearly and logically; correctly applies rules and conventions of standard written English. Contains few mistakes of grammar, spelling, and punctuation.	10-19 points Organized clearly and logically; correctly applies rules and conventions of standard written English. May contain occasional mistakes of grammar, spelling, and punctuation or lapses in flow or logic.	0-9 points Lacks logic of organization or clarity. Contains frequent mistakes of grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

Keywords

English Language Arts	Mathematics	Science
Reading	Algebra	Earth Science
Writing: compare/contrast	Geometry	Life Science
Communications	Statistics	Chemistry
Literature: character, plot, point of view, setting	Calculus	Physics
Other	Trigonometry	Other
	Other	