

Grades: 8th-12th

Understanding Romantic Tropes

Common Core Standard(s): CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.1; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2; CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.5

Materials Needed: 'Understanding Romance' and 'Most Common Tropes' handout (both included below) and pencil or chromebook/laptop for each student

Objective: Students will be able to recognize different romantic tropes as well as describe the characteristics of different tropes.

Lesson Plan

1. Have students watch Charlie Holmberg's class titled '**Why Romance?**' As they watch, have them pay special attention to the different types of romantic tropes.
2. After watching the class, put the following romantic tropes on the board or project them on your screen: Love Triangle, Secret Billionaire, Friends to Lovers, Enemies to Lovers, Fake Relationships, Stuck Together, Forbidden Love, Second Chance, Soul Mates (a poster with these tropes is included at the very bottom of the lesson and handouts.)
3. Go through each one and define the characteristics of each trope. Write those characteristics to the side of the trope.
4. Now tell students they are going to try recognizing different romantic tropes in books and/or movies. Share or hand out the sheet titled 'Understanding Romance.' Explain that the students are going to get with a partner, choose 4-5 different books or movies, tell which trope the book or movie uses and how they know it is that trope.
5. Give students time to work. At the end of the time have students share some of their books or movies with the class, tell the trope and how they know.
6. End by explaining that before you can write a good romance, you have to understand the characteristics of it. Challenge them to try adding a romance to one of their stories this year.



Understanding Romance

Choose 4-5 movies or books and figure out which trope the author/writers used to create the romance. Discuss what made that trope work for that movie/book.

<i>Movie or Book</i>	<i>Which Trope is it?</i>	<i>How do you know?</i>



Most Common Tropes

- Love triangle
- Secret billionaire
- Friends to lovers
- Enemies to lovers
- Fake relationship
- Stuck together
- Forbidden love
- Second chance
- Soul mates



**Advanced Application Activity*

Editing Skills:

For extra practice to reinforce today's topic you may assign students to work, in class or at home, on a chapter of their novel or a short story applying the key techniques learned today illustrating a romantic trope.. The papers can be exchanged with other students for peer review with specific attention to just the topic of focus. This will enhance editing skills and further engrain the lesson.

Revising Skills:

When the papers are returned students have the opportunity of fine tuning the skill of taking feedback and applying it to revision and rewrite of their manuscript.

Group Discussion:

After rough draft and final draft are returned it may be helpful to share what was most helpful or difficult about the feedback and how it may have helped to improve their writing. Or for class involvement have volunteers read their short story until someone correctly identifies which trope they chose.

Encourage students to continue working on their writing (on weekends, holiday breaks and over the summer) and to submit to be published in the TEEN AUTHOR BOOT CAMP First Chapter Contest.

<https://www.teenauthorbootcamp.com/contests>

