

Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will have a deeper understanding of the key philosophers discussed in "Sophie's World," their contributions to philosophy, and how these ideas can be paralleled with themes in other novels. The student will also engage creatively through art and critical thinking exercises.

Materials and Prep

- Notebook or journal for notes and reflections
- Art supplies (colored pencils, markers, paper)
- Access to "Sophie's World" novel
- Optional: Other novels for comparison (e.g., "1984," "Brave New World")
- Basic knowledge of major philosophers (Socrates, Plato, Descartes, etc.)

Activities

• **Philosopher Portraits:**

The student will choose a philosopher discussed in "Sophie's World" and create an artistic portrait that represents their ideas. This can include symbols or quotes that embody their philosophy.

• **Philosophical Debate:**

The student will prepare arguments for and against a philosophical question related to the themes in "Sophie's World." They can role-play as different philosophers during a mock debate.

• **Creative Writing Exercise:**

The student will write a short story or scene that incorporates a philosophical concept from "Sophie's World." This could be a dialogue between characters discussing existentialism or ethics.

• **Connections to Other Novels:**

The student will identify parallels between the philosophical themes in "Sophie's World" and those in another novel they enjoy. They can create a Venn diagram to visually compare the themes.

Talking Points

- "Philosophy is about asking questions. What do you think makes a question philosophical?"
- "Socrates famously said, 'The unexamined life is not worth living.' Why do you think self-reflection is important?"
- "Plato believed in the world of forms, where true knowledge exists. How does this idea challenge our understanding of reality?"
- "Descartes said, 'I think, therefore I am.' What do you think this means about our existence?"
- "In 'Sophie's World,' the journey of learning is just as important as the knowledge itself. How can this idea apply to your own learning?"
- "Many novels explore existential themes, like '1984' and 'Brave New World.' How do these stories reflect philosophical ideas?"
- "Art can express complex ideas. How can your portrait of a philosopher convey their thoughts?"

- "Debating philosophical ideas can help us understand different viewpoints. What did you learn from playing different roles?"