

Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to analyze and interpret a dance performance through reading, identify key elements of storytelling in dance, and make connections between dance and language arts.

Materials and Prep

- Access to a computer or tablet with internet connection
- Pen or pencil
- Blank paper or notebook

No specific prior knowledge is required for this lesson.

Activities

1. Watch a dance performance video online. Choose a dance style that interests you, such as ballet, hip-hop, or contemporary.
2. Take notes while watching the performance. Pay attention to the dancers' movements, facial expressions, and any props or costumes used. Write down your observations and initial thoughts.
3. Research the choreographer of the dance piece. Find information about their background, training, and artistic vision. Take notes on the choreographer's inspiration for the performance.
4. Read a biography or interview of the choreographer. Analyze how their personal experiences and beliefs influenced their artistic choices in the dance piece.
5. Write a short reflection essay on the dance performance. Include your observations, thoughts, and analysis of the choreographer's intentions. Make connections between the dance and language arts by discussing how the performance conveyed a story or message.

Sixth Grade Talking Points

- "Dance is a form of artistic expression that uses the body's movements to communicate."
- "Choreographers are the creators of dance pieces. They design the movements, choose the music, and create the overall vision for the performance."
- "Observing and analyzing a dance performance can help us understand the choreographer's intentions and appreciate the art form."
- "Dance can tell stories and convey emotions, just like books or poems. It uses physical movements instead of words to communicate."
- "By researching the choreographer's background and artistic vision, we can gain insights into their creative process and understand the meaning behind their work."
- "Writing a reflection essay allows us to express our thoughts and interpretations of a dance performance. It helps us develop critical thinking skills and make connections between different forms of art."