**Resisting Cliché: How to Craft a Great Metaphor**

Lesson Plan

Teacher: Sophia Su

Description:

This was a real analogy written by a high school student: “He was as tall as a 6’3” tree.”

Why was this analogy bad? What makes a metaphor “great”? In this workshop-style class, students will be exposed to a variety of “good” versus “bad” examples of figurative language in creative writing. We’ll then work together in groups to come up with our own unique similes and metaphors in response to various writing exercises.

Plan:

0-5 min: Teacher introduction, structure of the class, disclaimers

5-10 min: Going over some examples of really bad analogies

Topic 1: Resisting Cliché

10-15 min: Going over examples of good metaphors that resist cliché

15-25 min: Have students work in groups to respond to Fishtank of Desire exercise, fill out ideas on collaborative sheets of paper

25-30 min: Reconvene, discuss examples

Topic 2: Consistent Tone and Speaker

30-35 min: Discuss how metaphors can add to tone and reveal details about the speaker

35-45 min: Breakout rooms, have students come up with metaphors to describe a certain scene from POV of a certain speaker, collaborative sheets of paper

45-50 min: Reconvene, discuss, end class