

GRADE 8 MODULES

1. *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling*
2. *The Great War*
3. *What Is Love?*
4. *Teens as Change Agents*



***THE BIRTHDAY* (1915)**

Marc Chagall, Russian-French,
1887–1985

Oil on cardboard

Museum of Modern Art, New York

Glossary

Grade 8

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling*

Word	Definition
aligned	To bring (oneself) into agreement with another viewpoint
allusion	A reference made to something that is not directly mentioned
amateur	A person who does something poorly: a person who is not skillful at a job or other activity
antelope	An animal in Africa and Asia that looks like a deer, has horns pointing up and back, and runs very fast
atonement	Way to show that you are sorry about doing something bad
authentic	Accurate or genuine, not a copy
autopsy	An examination of a dead body to find out the cause of death
averred	To say (something) in a very strong and definite way
backboard	In basketball, the rectangular surface behind the basket
camaraderie/ comradery	Mutual trust and friendship
coherent	Easily understood and logically connected
collage	A type of art in which materials such as photographs, images from magazines, cloth, buttons, etc., are pasted to a surface
confrontational	Dealing with situations in an aggressive, hostile, or argumentative way
conjure	Produce by magic
content	The subject matter or substance of a story; knowledge or information that is expressed or communicated

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling* – continued –

Word	Definition
correlation	A link or association between multiple things
cover letter	A letter that explains the purpose of a document or mailed correspondence
cackled	To laugh noisily
cloyingly	Too sweet, pleasant, or emotional
cognitive	Of, relating to, or involving conscious mental activities (such as thinking, understanding, learning, and remembering)
compacted	Smaller than other things of the same kind; short but solid and strong
confrontational	Aggressive to the point of causing conflict
conjured	To make you think of (something)
consists	To be formed or made up of
contemporary	Happening or beginning now or in recent times
continuity	Something that does not stop or change as time passes
cortex	Outer layer of an organ in the body and especially of the brain
Crêpes suzette	French dessert consisting of crêpes with beurre Suzette, a sauce of caramelized sugar and butter, tangerine or orange juice, zest, and Grand Marnier, triple sec or orange Curaçao liqueur on top, prepared in a tableside performance, flambé
crossover	A basketball move in which a player dribbles quickly from one hand to another; a point or place of crossing from one side to the other; the process of achieving success in a different field or style
cultural	Having to do with culture
default	Something that happens or is done when nothing else has been done or can be done
definition	A statement that explains a word, phrase, or idea

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling* – continued –

Word	Definition
dignity	The quality of being worthy of honor or respect
dimension	The length, width, height, or depth of something
dissonance	Not in agreement; not in harmony
distilled	To take out the most significant part or quality of a thing or idea
domestic	Of, relating to, or made in your own country
dribble	The up and down motion of a bouncing ball
drive	Bouncing a ball up and down while moving toward the basket in basketball
dunk	Scoring in basketball by directly putting the ball in the basket from above, rather than shooting the ball
ecology	The relationship between a group of living things and their environment
elicit	To bring out something that is latent or hidden
ellipsis	A punctuation mark that indicates a pause or word that has been left out of a sentence
emancipation	Freedom from someone else's control or power
emeritus	An honorary title from an office or position especially in a university
eminently	To a high degree
empathize	To understand someone else's thoughts, feelings, or situation
empower	Give someone or something the power to act
engage	To hire or pay for a service
enshrine	To protect and treasure something that's holy

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling* – continued –

Word	Definition
entwine	To weave together
epilogue	A final section or speech after the main part of a book, play, or musical composition
evocative	Able to bring out a response, thoughts, feelings, or emotions
exerts	To cause (force, effort, etc.); to have an effect or to be felt
extraversion	Obtaining gratification from outside oneself
fast break	In basketball, a quick movement of the ball by the offense in order to get ahead of the defense and score
first-person explanation	The life story that people tell about who they are and why; another way to say first-person narrative or first-person story
form	The shape or structure of a story; how knowledge or information is expressed or communicated
free throw	In basketball, an undefended shot from a line 15 feet away from the basket, usually in response to a foul on the defense
free verse	Poetry that has no formal rhymes, stanzas, or rhythmic patterns
functional	Made to have a real and practical use
futile	Unlikely to lead to a desired result
generative	The cause of or reason for
grudgingly	Said, done, or given in an unwilling or doubtful way
hone	To make something better for a specific use
humanize	To make (someone or something) seem gentler, kinder, or more appealing to people
hustle	To move quickly in a rough way; to push something with force

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling* – continued –

Word	Definition
hyperbole	In writing or speaking, when one overstates or magnifies a point in order to emphasize its importance
imagination/ imagine	Pictures formed in your mind of things that have not happened or that you did not see or experience; the ability of the mind to be creative or resourceful; forming new ideas or concepts not present to the senses
imperative mood	Expresses, or states, a command (subject is implied “you”)
impressionable	Easy to influence
indicate	To show
indicative mood	Expresses, or indicates, a fact or opinion (adds detail or describes what happens)
infrastructure	The basic equipment and structures that are needed for a country, region, or organization to function properly
interrogative mood	Expresses, or asks, a question (inverts the subject-verb order)
irony/ironic	A difference between what is anticipated and what happens
Kiowa	A Native American tribe that migrated to (what is currently) Oklahoma from Montana in the nineteenth century
lay up	In basketball, a shot made when a play moves toward and is close to the basket
line	A path that defines the borders of a form, varies in shape and thickness, and can provide information around a work of art through its type and direction
linear narrative	A story that moves chronologically through time, with events described in the order that they happened
manuscript	The original copy of a play, book, piece of music, etc., before it has been printed
medium	Different modes in which information is transmitted
melee	A confused struggle or fight involving many people

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling* – continued –

Word	Definition
metaphor	A phrase that compares two unlike things without using like or as to show similarities
Mercury	In mythology, called Hermes by the Greeks, the messenger of the gods and known for his swiftness
moony	Full of romantic feelings
moral(ity)	Beliefs about what is right behavior and what is wrong behavior
motive	A reason for doing something
myriad	A very large number of things
mythical	Based on or described in a myth; existing only in the imagination
narrative arc	Visually evokes the idea that every story has a relatively calm beginning, a middle where tension, character conflict, and narrative momentum builds to a peak, and an end where the conflict is resolved
neuroscience	The scientific study of nerves and especially of how nerves affect learning and behavior
neuroses	Relatively mild mental illness that is not caused by organic disease, involving symptoms of stress
neuroticism	Excessive and irrational anxiety or obsession
normalize	To come back to or reach a condition that is standard or conventional
novel in verse	A novel told in verse (poems) rather than in prose
ode	A poem in praise or celebration of something or someone, usually expressing deep love or admiration for the subject, and usually in a lofty and enthusiastic style; an ode can celebrate an object, a person, an animal, something from nature, an event, an idea, a feeling, a relationship, something ordinary
olfactory	Of, relating to, or connected with the sense of smell

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling* – continued –

Word	Definition
patronize	Talk down to or treat someone as though they are childish, immature, or unintelligent
pedant	A person who annoys other people by correcting small errors and giving too much attention to minor details
penultimate	Next to last
perspective	Seeing or understanding a thing from a distinct position and point of view
phenomenal	Outstanding or fantastic, perhaps even uniquely so
phenomenon	An interesting fact or event that can be observed and studied and that typically is unusual or difficult to understand or explain fully
pious	Deeply religious; devoted to a particular religion
podiatry	Treatment of injuries and diseases of the foot
power	Being able to act in a way that works to advantage; having a lot of sway or rule over others; the ability to manipulate or change feelings or ways of thinking
pronouncements	Official public statements
psychotherapy	The treatment of mental disorder by psychological rather than medical means
purveyor	A person who or business that sells or provides something
quest	A search or a journey
quicksilver	Mercury, a liquid metallic chemical element
raffia	Material that looks like string, is made from palm leaves, and is used to make baskets, hats, etc.
rebuked	Spoken to in an angry and critical way
recede	To go back from something with one's body or one's thoughts and understanding

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling* – continued –

Word	Definition
recognition	The act of knowing who or what someone or something is because of previous knowledge or experience
reconstruction	The act or result of rebuilding or restoring
redolent	Having a strong smell; full of a fragrance or odor; causing thoughts or memories of something
relate	To show or make a connection between
replica	An exact or very close copy of something
representative	A model example of something
repress	To forcibly restrain, potentially with violence
resilience	The ability to survive or recover from something
retrospective	Of or relating to the past or something that happened in the past
rim	In basketball, the metal circle that is part of a basket; the part of the basket attached to the net
seed	The order or position of sports teams in a contest where many teams participate
sense of self	How a person defines herself or himself
sensory language	The use of details that appeal to a reader's senses (sight, sound, smell, taste, touch/feel) to add color and depth to writing and help readers visualize what an author is writing about
simile	A comparison using the word like or as
simulation	An imitation of an experience, action, or location
sprung rhythm	Poetic rhythm designed to imitate the rhythm of natural speech

Module 1: *The Poetics and Power of Storytelling* – continued –

Word	Definition
stammering	Speaking with many pauses and repetitions because you have a speech problem or because you are very nervous, frightened, etc.
stereotype	A received and fixed idea lacking in subtlety or detail that is believed by many people
storytelling	A responsive way to use words and actions to skillfully illuminate the elements and thoughts of a story while also helping the person who is listening to the story to use their imagination
Sub-Saharan	Geographically and ethnoculturally, the area of the continent of Africa that lies south of the Sahara
tandem	Having two people or things that work together or are associated with each other; working or happening together or at the same time
theory	A suggested description of a thing or idea that is often a result of thinking that cannot be physically represented
top of the key	A half circle that goes behind the free throw line on a basketball court
transcends	To rise above or go beyond the normal limits
utterance	A vocal statement, spoken or delivered in a loud manner
vacancy	A job or position that is available to be taken
vanishing point	The place at which two lines that run beside one another appear to join or meet
venerable	Valued and respected because of old age, long use, etc.
Venus	The planet that is second in order from the sun
virtues	An advantage or benefit
vulnerable	In a position where one can, be hurt
whimsy	Playfulness or oddity

Module 2: *The Great War*

Word	Definition
aberration	Something (such as a problem or a type of behavior) that is unusual or unexpected
abstraction	An idea rather than a real thing
absurdity	Something that does not have reasonable order or meaning; ridiculous
abyss	An extremely wide and deep hole that is too big to be exactly understood or measured
accumulate	To gather or acquire (something) gradually as time passes
affect	To produce a change or cause to be different in some way
agony	Very long and extreme pain that is either physical or mental
alliance	Multiple people, organizations, countries, or any group that has similar aims and works together to achieve these goals
allotted	To give someone (an amount of something) to use or have
allurement	Fascination; charm
ammunition	Objects that are detonated from any weapon
ancestry	The people who were in your family in past times
annihilation	To completely break up, shatter or ruin without any hope of being rebuilt or the state of being completely broken or damaged
apparitions	Ghost or spirit of a dead person
ardent	Marked or possessing overwhelming feeling of loyalty, eagerness, a fiery spirit or strong desire
armistice	An agreement to stop fighting a war
artillery	Large guns that are used to shoot over a great distance

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
atonal	Not written, played, or sung in a particular key
attrition	The act or process of weakening and gradually defeating an enemy through constant attacks and continued pressure over a long period of time
automaton	A person who acts in a mechanical or machinelike way; a machine that can move by itself
banal	Boring or ordinary; not interesting
barrage	Heavy and continuous firing of weapons during a battle
baseness	Not honest or good
beckon	Gesture requesting someone to move closer or follow)
bellowing	Shouting in a deep voice
bolstered	Made stronger or better; gave support to
bombardment	To strike with artillery, or explosive devices such as bombs or cannons
brimstone	Sulfur
campaign	A series of military battles, attacks, etc., designed to produce a particular result in a war
canal	A long narrow place that is filled with water
canteen	Small portable container used for carrying water
casualties	People hurt or killed during an accident, war, etc.
coerce	To persuade or pressure a person to do something by using threats, intimidation, or the like
comrade	A close friend you have worked with, been in the military with, etc.

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
concord	A state in which people or things agree with each other and exist together in a peaceful way
conditions	Environment or surroundings
confer	To give
confounded	Very bad or annoying
conjecture	To make a judgment or propose a solution that is usually not based on much evidence
conscription	The practice of ordering people by law to serve in the armed forces
consensus	A general agreement about something; an idea or opinion that is shared by all the people in a group
convalescent	Going through the process of becoming well again after an illness or injury
countenance	To accept, support, or approve of (something)
court-martialed	Tried by a military court or a trial
criticism	A remark or comment that expresses disapproval of someone or something
decorum	Respectable or dignified ways of behaving, acting toward others, or appearance
degeneration	To change to a worse state or condition
dejected	In low spirits; depressed
delusions	A false idea or belief that is caused by mental illness
depleted	To decrease or make less by an extreme amount
depot	A place where military supplies are kept or where soldiers are trained
derision	The feeling that people express when they criticize and laugh at someone or something in an insulting way

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
desertion	To leave the military without permission and without intending to return
detain	To stop or block from continuing farther
dichotomy	A difference between two opposite things; a division into two opposite groups
dilate	To become larger or wider; to talk about (a subject) for a long time
diplomat	A person who represents his or her country's government in a foreign country
discomfiture	Confusion or upset
disconcerted	To feel baffled, confused, or generally uneasy about a particular thing or situation
discourse	The use of words to exchange thoughts and ideas
disillusion	To remove hopes or beliefs in things that were once true; to disconnect from fantasies of
dissolution	The act, process, or result of breaking down or being scattered into parts or elements
dysentery	A serious disease that causes severe diarrhea and a loss of blood
ecstasy	A state of very great happiness; extreme delight
effect	Something that is made or launched by something else; a sense or feeling produced in the mind
effeminate	The appearance or behavior that is associated with a woman
elaborate	To add details to something; to explain more fully
emaciated	Very thin because of hunger or disease
emasculating	To take away the strength or energy from something, particularly taking away a man's strength
embankment	A raised bank or wall that is built to carry a roadway or hold back water

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
embittered	To make someone resentful or produce nasty emotions or views of the world
empire	A group of countries or regions that are controlled by one ruler or one government
enlisted	Joined the military
entanglements	Causing (something) to get caught in or twisted with something else
ethnic	Of or relating to races or large groups of people who have the same customs, religion, origin, etc.
evasively	Done to avoid harm, an accident, etc.
exasperate	To make (someone) very angry or annoyed
exemption	Freedom from being required to do something that others are required to do
exhort	To urge, advise, or incite with great seriousness
factor	One of the reasons that something changes; one of the parts of a difference in a result of something
fatuous	Self-satisfyingly dumb or stupid
ferocity	The quality of being violent, brutal, vicious, or savage
floundering	To be unsure about what to do or say
foresight	The ability to see what will or might happen in the future
front	The place or region where there is fighting and physical conflict during a war
gassed	To poison with gas
geometric	Enclosed form featuring precise lines, clear edges, and shapes from geometry. A square, triangle, or cylinder
grievous	Causing great sadness, suffering, or pain

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
heir	A person who has the legal right to receive the property of someone who dies
hierarchy	A system in which people or things are placed in a series of levels with different importance or status
humanity	The entire group of human beings; the state or feature of being a human being, especially as it relates to the problems and struggles of issues that human beings deal with
hysteria	Mental condition that was thought to affect only women
illuminate	To brighten with light or make light where it was once dark; to make something more straightforward or easier to understand or explain; to provide understanding and knowledge
implacable	Opposed to someone or something in a very angry or determined way that cannot be changed
implored	Made a very serious or emotional request to
incident	An unexpected and usually unpleasant thing that happens
indefatigable	Able to work or continue for a very long time without becoming tired
indifferent	Without involvement or caring too much about something; lacking interest in
indignant	Feeling or showing anger because of something that is unfair or wrong; very angry
initiate	To cause to begin, start, originate
insubordination	Not having a desire to obey authority or listen to orders given by someone with more power, especially in the military
intention	The thing that you plan to do or achieve; an aim or purpose
interject	To introduce (a remark or comment) between words or remarks or in the middle of a conversation or discussion
intrude	Enter or thrust oneself when uninvited or unwelcomed, barge in

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
laconically	Using few words in speech or writing
lame	Having an injured leg or foot that makes walking difficult or painful
latter	Referring to the second thing if more than one thing is mentioned
liberation	The act or process of freeing someone or something from another's control; the act of liberating someone or something
loaf	To spend time relaxing instead of working
lorry	British slang for a truck
louse	A type of small insect that lives on the bodies of people or animals
martinets	People who are very strict and demand obedience from others
melancholy	Sad mood or feeling
militarism	The opinions or actions of people who believe that a country should use military methods, forces, etc., to gain power and to achieve its goals
minute	Extremely little in total size or the entire amount
mode of address	The relationship constructed between the addresser and the addressee in a text; the style a text's speaker uses to speak to the audience and involve them in the text
monotonous	Very boring because of a repeated action
morphia	Old-fashioned term for morphine; a pain killer
mutilated	Severe damage to body or mind
nationalism	A feeling that people have of being proud of their country, often with the belief that it is better than other countries
negotiate	To discuss something formally in order to make an agreement

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
neutrality	The position of not taking any side in an argument
novelties	Things that are new or unusual
onslaught	A violent attack
organic	Irregular, flowing or free form, with less-defined edges, and associated with shapes from the natural world, like plants or animals
ostracized	Not allowed to be included in a group; excluded
pacifists	People who believe that war and violence are wrong and who refuse to participate in or support a war
parapet	Mounded earth
patriotic	Proud of your country and devoted to it
patriotism	To have a deep loyalty and love for the country where one was born or identifies with as a citizen
perpetual	Constant; nonstop movement
placate	To cause (someone) to feel less angry about something
poplars	A tall, thin tree that has rough bark, soft wood, and very small groups of flowers
predominant	More important, powerful, successful, or noticeable than other people or things
proffered	To offer or give (something) to someone
protrude	To stick out from something
province	Any one of the large parts that some countries are divided into
provision	The act or process of supplying or providing something
psychological	Mental

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
punctually	At the agreed or proper time
punctuated	To interrupt or occur in (something) repeatedly
regeneration	Rebirth re-creation
reject	To throw away; get rid of
renounce	To say in a formal or definite way that you refuse to follow, obey, or support (someone or something) any longer
renunciation	The act of renouncing something or someone
repel	To force (an enemy, attacker, etc.) to stop an attack and turn away
resignation	To give up without much challenge or opposition
resonant	Strongly affecting someone especially with a particular quality
righteous	The right moral choice
scale	How large or small something seems when compared to the objects around it
scrupulous	Very careful about doing something correctly
sector	An area for which someone (such as a military commander) is responsible
sensibility	To be able to detect, understand, or feel; the potential to have an emotional response to something; the potential to have an understanding and appreciation for very good art
sentry	A soldier who guards a door or gate
shell shock	Hysterical paralysis, deafness, mutism, arthritis, facial spasms, fear, disgust, fatigue, delirium, suicidal thoughts, stammer brought on by trauma in war
solemn	To be very serious and not at all happy in appearance, feeling, or speech
solidarity	A feeling of unity between people who have the same interests, goals, etc.

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
speak	To talk about a particular subject or person
stabilization	To be very secure and capable of maintaining form
stark	Unpleasant and difficult to accept or experience
status report	Record of personnel, actions, and involvement in incidents
strangeness	A feeling of the unknown or unfamiliar
stratagem	A trick or plan for deceiving an enemy or for achieving a goal
stifle	To not allow yourself to do or express
stronghold	A protected place where the members of a military group stay and can defend themselves against attacks
succumbing	Stop trying to resist something
suffocating	Describing something that makes you very uncomfortable or makes it difficult to act freely
superficial	Interested only in what is trivial, readily apparent, or lies on the surface
superfluous	To have an amount that is far larger than the amount that one needs
surge	To move very quickly and suddenly in a particular direction
surreal	Bizarre, weird, or eerie; having a dream-like quality
surreptitiously	Done in a secret way
tactless	Tending to offend or upset people
tedious	Very extended and not fun; boring or dull
territory	An area of land that belongs to or is controlled by a government

Module 2: *The Great War* – continued –

Word	Definition
threshold	The material underneath a door that is part of a doorway, the start of a new plan, action, or event
transformation	A big change in the way someone or something is, looks, or in the basic characteristics of someone or something
ultimatum	The last thing that is said in a discussion that is usually a threat or terrible consequence, often in a discussion between groups or governments
unbearable	Very hard to maintain or understand
upended	To be turned over—often used figuratively
unendurable	Impossible to bear
vacancies	A job or position that is available to be taken
veil	A piece of clothing that people wear; something that serves to conceal or separate
voracity	Marked by an insatiable appetite
vortex	A mass of spinning air, liquid, etc., that pulls things into its center—sometimes used figuratively
wearisome	Causing extreme physical and mental tiredness
zest	Something that is very pleasurable and causes great enjoyment

Module 3: *What Is Love?*

Word	Definition
abate	To become weaker; to decrease in strength
abjure	To reject (something) formally

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
abnormal	Different from the normal; unusual
acknowledge	To admit or recognize the truth of something
addiction	A strong and harmful need to regularly have something (such as a drug) or do something (such as gamble); an unusually great interest in something or a need to do or have something
adversity	A condition of misfortune or difficulty
agency	The ability of a person to act or make choices in each situation
aggravate	To make worse or to annoy
alarming	A feeling of fear caused by a sudden sense of danger
amazed	Confused and lost
amity	Friendship
amphibious	Able to be used on land and in water
antecedents	The people in a family who lived in past times
anthropologist	A scientist who studies of human races, origins, societies, and cultures
anxiety	Fear or nervousness about what might happen
apathetically	Not having or showing much emotion or interest
articulation	The clarity and precision with which an actor delivers his or her lines
aside	A departure from the main point of discussion in drama; to make a comment only the audience can hear
attachment	Strong feelings of affection or loyalty for someone or something
aver	To say (something) in a very strong and definite way

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
backdrop	A painted cloth hung at the back of the stage as part of the scenery for the set
beguiled	To attract or interest someone
beseech	To beg (someone) for something; to ask (someone) in a serious and emotional way to do something
besotted	Confused or made to look like a fool
bewitched	To enchant or cast a spell over with magic or as if with magic; to charm or fascinate
bide	To wait for the right time before you do something
blocking	The precise movement of the actors across the stage
bluff	To mislead someone by using false pretenses
bower	A pleasant shady place in a garden or forest
brief	Short in duration
celestial	Of the stars or heavens
center stage	The middle of the stage
changeling	A baby that is secretly left to replace another baby
charm	To enchant or cast a spell over with magic or as if with magic
chide	To express mild disapproval of (someone); to scold (someone) gently
compulsive	Too strong to resist; impossible to stop or control
concord	A state of agreement or harmony
confederacy	A group of persons united for illicit purposes, conspiracy
conjoined	Combined for a common purpose

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
conjure	To do or produce by or as if by magic or sleight of hand
conspired	Secretly plan with someone to do something that is harmful or illegal
consummation	To make (a marriage or romantic relationship) complete
contagious	Capable of being spread from person to person by contact
contrived	Having an unnatural or false appearance or quality
coy	Having a shy or sweetly innocent quality that is often intended to be attractive or to get attention
cue	Anything that serves as a signal for action
cunning	Skill used in a sly or tricky way
demise	End of life; end of something that is thought of as being like a death
derision	Mockery or ridicule
destiny	That which has happened or must happen to someone because of fate or luck
devised	Invent or plan
diagnostics	The skill or practice of identifying illnesses or problems
discord	Disagreement or lack of harmony
diction	The overall style of speech used by an actor to deliver his/her lines, including articulation, pacing, volume, and pitch
disdainful	Showing a lack of respect
disparage	To depreciate or belittle, especially in speech
dissension	Strong disagreement or contention
distinguish	Show how something is distinct, or individual

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
dote	To feel or display excessive affection, especially for a person
downstage	The area in which actors or objects are at the nearest part of the stage, as close as they can get to the audience
dramatic irony	The use of ironic contrast in drama, as between the actual situation and what the characters understand or say about it; to create suspense or comedy
ecstasy	A state of very great happiness; extreme delight
edict	An order or decree proclaimed by someone in authority
elusive	Hard to understand, define, or remember
enamored	In love
enmity	The mutual feeling of enemies toward each other; hatred; hostility; antagonism
enthralled	Capture the fascinated attention of
entice	To lure or tempt
errs	Make a mistake
estrogen	Hormone that occurs naturally in women that plays an important role in the development of female characteristics of a woman's body
evolution	The continuous adaptation of organisms to their environments; a gradual process of change and development that something goes through; becoming more complex and sometimes better
exclusivity	Quality of being limited to people of wealth or high social class
fMRI	Functional magnetic resonance imaging, or functional MRI, which measures brain activity by detecting changes associated with blood flow
fallacy	A false or mistaken idea
fate	The determination of what happens without any input from the person (or people) involved

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
fawn	To try to get the approval of an important or powerful person by giving that person praise, special attention, etc.
filched	Stolen
flabbergasted	Amazed
forebears	Ancestors
fray	A noisy dispute or conflict; a brawl or battle
gesture	An expressive movement of the body
guise(s)	One of several or many ways in which something is seen, experienced, or produced
harmonious	Characterized by agreement; pleasant sounding
heresies	A belief or opinion that does not agree with the official belief or opinion of a particular religion
hominid	A primate of a family that includes humans and their fossil ancestors and also (in recent systems) at least some of the great apes
hypersomnia	A condition in which a person has trouble staying awake during the day
infectious	Having the ability to be transmitted by virus or disease
injurious	Causing injury; harmful
insomnia	The condition of not being able to sleep
irony	Contrast between expectation and outcome, or an event or situation that contains such contrast
knaveish	Dishonest
languish	To continue for a long time without activity or progress in an unpleasant or unwanted situation

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
layman	A person who is not a member of a particular profession
level	The position of an actor's head in relation to the audience, whether they are standing, sitting, crouching, or laying down
maintain	To continue without making changes
mammalian	Descriptive of a type of animal that feeds milk to its young and that usually has hair or fur covering most of its skin
marvel	A wonderful or marvelous person or thing
mechanisms	A process or system that is used to produce a particular result
metabolic	Chemical processes by which a plant or an animal uses food, water, etc., to grow and heal and to make energy
mirth	Happiness and laughter
mockery	Ridicule
monogamy	The state of being in a relationship with only one individual
mug	To make exaggerated facial expressions at the audience
mundane	Dull and ordinary
neuroscience	The scientific study of nerves and especially of how nerves affect learning and behavior
Nobel laureate	Winner of an annual international awards bestowed in several categories by Swedish and Norwegian institutions in recognition of academic, cultural, or scientific advances
norms	Rules and expectations for individuals in a certain time or place
notion	An idea or opinion
nucleus accumbens	A brain structure that is part of our pleasure and reward system and that activates our motivation and allows willpower to translate into action

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
nuptial	Wedding
obscenely	To an offensive degree or in a rude or lewd manner
obsessed	Having reoccurring or dominating thoughts about a person or thing
obsession	An abnormal or excessive preoccupation of the mind and emotions
officious	An annoying person who tries to tell other people what to do in a way that is not wanted or needed
ordinance	A law or regulation
pacing	The speed with which an actor delivers his/her lines
pantomime	A way of communicating information or expressing emotion without using language using exaggerated physical gestures or facial expressions to tell a story
paradox	Contradictory statement
paramount	The highest authority
pathological	Related to disease
peevish	Feeling or showing irritation
peril	Something that is likely to cause injury, pain, harm, or loss, danger
perjured	Rendered (oneself) guilty of lying in a court by giving false testimony under oath
philosophy	The study of ideas about knowledge, truth, the nature and meaning of life, etc.
pitch	The highness or lowness of a voice
placidly	Not easily upset or excited
progeny	A descendent or offspring, such as a child

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
projection	The placement and delivery of volume, clarity, and distinctness of voice for communicating to an audience
prop	Any object on the stage that is used by the actors during the performance
prosecute	To continue to do (something); to proceed with (something)
position	Whether the actor is facing away from the audience, toward the audience, or so the audience can see their side profile
proverb	A brief popular saying that gives advice
psychopathology	The scientific study of mental disorders
psychotherapy	The treatment of mental disorder by psychological rather than medical means
pun	Word play, often for humorous effect, that is based on a similarity in sound of two or more words or on various meanings of the same word
regard	To think of someone or something in a particular way
remarkable	Unusual or surprising
repent	To feel or show that you are sorry for something bad or wrong that you did and that you want to do what is right
reverse outline	An outline made after an essay has been written
scorn	A feeling of hatred for someone or something thought of as worthless or evil; to treat as hateful or not proper
set	The painting structures of a stage meant to suggest a particular location Sometimes plays will have multiple sets for different scenes or changing locations
sovereignty	Authority over
spare	To save from undergoing something, to refrain from injuring or destroying
spite	The wish to hurt, bother, or embarrass a person

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
stage dressing	Everything used to decorate the stage, including the set, backdrop, and props
stage left	The left side of the stage from the perspective of an actor facing the audience
stage right	The right side of the stage from the perspective of an actor facing the audience
staging	The visual detail and design of the stage; the decorations and physical objects that are used to create the setting of the play
staggering	Very large; shocking or surprising
statistical	Of, concerning, or using statistics or the types of mathematical analysis that provides numerical information of a type that allows testing of a hypothesis
supernatural	Describes either something or someone or an event caused by a force separate or outside of what are considered natural laws of nature
surfeit	An amount that is too much or more than you need
tedious	Long and boring
testosterone	A substance (called a hormone) that occurs naturally in men and male animals
theological	The study of religious faith, practice, and experience; the study of God and God's relation to the world
transmittable	Having the ability to be passed from one person to another
transpose	To change in form or appearance; to change the place or position of something; to cause two or more things to change places with each other
unbidden	Not asked for or invited
universal	Of, having to do with, or characteristic of the whole world or the world's population; for or affecting everyone
upstage	The farthest part of the stage away from the audience
verity	Truth

Module 3: *What Is Love?* – continued –

Word	Definition
vexation	Combination of anger, confusion, and annoyance
vile	Evil or immoral
vindicate	To prove that someone is innocent, even if other people think they are not
virtuous	Characterized by moral excellence
vocal quality	The qualities that define the sound of a voice (, raspy, shrill, chirpy, deep)
volume	The degree of loudness and softness, or the intensity with which an actor delivers his or her lines
wanes	To become smaller or less; to decrease in size, amount, length, or quality
withdrawal	The physical and mental problems that occur for a period after a person stops using an addictive substance
woo	To seek to win the love or approval of
yield	to give up, surrender

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents*

Word	Definition
abridge	To shorten (a book, a play, etc.) by leaving out some parts
abstract art	A work of art that shows things differently from the way they look in real life
accelerant	Something used to spread fire
acquitted	Decided that someone is not guilty of a crime
acute	Very serious or dangerous

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
advocating	Arguing for or supporting a cause or policy
agency	Power, control, or choice over your actions
allegedly	Something that people say happened but may or may not have happened
amplification	Giving more information about (something, such as a statement); speaking or writing about (something) in a more complete way
apprised	To give information to
assess	To make a judgment about
autonomy	The state of existing or acting separately from others
bias	Preference for one thing over another, or against one thing rather than another, usually considered unfair
bone marrow	A soft substance that fills the bones of people and animals
boycott	A refusal to buy or use something as a form of protest
brazen	Acting or done in a very open and shocking way without shame or embarrassment
briefed	To give information or instructions to
cadre	Group
calculation	Measurement
capitalistic	Related to an economic system in which individuals, not governments, own property and businesses
catalyzing	A person or event that quickly caused change or action
change	Causing something to become different
chilling	Very disturbing or frightening

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
citizen	A person belonging to a specific nation
Class action suit	A lawsuit representing a group of people who share a common claim against another
coercion	The act of persuading someone through using threats or force
commemoration	An event to honor a special person or event
conceded	To accept or not deny the truth or existence of (something); to admit (something) usually in an unwilling way
consciousness	A state of being aware; the general thoughts or sentiments of a group of people
consensus	General agreement
conviction	The action of finding someone guilty of a crime; the position of being found guilty; a strongly guarded belief; the feeling of being sure that what you believe or say is true
defendant	The person or organization accused in a lawsuit or court of law
degrading	Humiliating or causing a loss of self-respect
deliberations	Careful thought or discussion done to decide
deliverance	The state of being saved from something dangerous or unpleasant
demarcated	Boundary line
democracy	A government in which people elect their own leaders or rulers
despotic	A government that takes too much power
determinant	A thing that controls or influences what happens
deviates	To do something that is different or to be different from what is usual or expected

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
diffusion	The large-scale dispersion of something
dimensions	The measured size of something
disinherited	Prevented (someone, such as your daughter or son) from having the legal right to receive your money or property after you die
dissipated	To cause (something) to spread out and disappear
distinction	A difference between similar things or people
dominate	To have control over
education	The knowledge, skill, and understanding that you get from attending a school, college, or university
effect	A reaction or event that happens in response to another action or event
emboldened	To strengthen a resolve; to encourage
entrepreneur	A person who starts a business and is willing to risk loss in order to make money
epithets	An offensive word or name that is used as a way of abusing or insulting someone
establishment	A place or organization where people live or do business
evangelism	Talking about something with great enthusiasm
exasperated	Highly irritated or annoyed
fervor	A strong feeling of excitement and enthusiasm
flanked	To be located on both sides of (something or someone)
forced perspective	The use of illusion to make an object appear farther away than it is
form	The shape of something

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
galvanize	To cause (people) to become so excited or concerned about an issue, idea, etc., that they want to do something about it
grandiosity	Pretentiously impressive or imposing
grotesque	Strange or ugly in a way that is not normal or natural
hierarchical	A system in which people or things are placed in a series of levels with different importance or status
historical importance	The significance of a person's actions in the events of the past
hypocrisy	Talking about or stating a belief in ideas, values, or truths when a person does not believe in these things
ideological	The set of ideas and beliefs of a group or political party
ignited	To cause a fire; to start burning
immersion	Complete involvement in some activity or interest
implication	Suggested conclusion or result of something
incarcerated	Put in prison
indicted	Formally decided that someone should be put on trial for a crime
indiscriminately	Affecting or harming many people or things in a careless or unfair way
infiltrated	Secretly entered or joined (something, such as a group or an organization) in order to get information or do harm
injustice	Something that is not fair
installation	Describes the way a work of art is placed in a location such as a gallery, museum, or public park
integrity	Quality of being honest or having strong morals

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
intervention	To come into a situation to change the outcome
justice	Fairness, equality, or moral righteousness; the fulfillment of the law
justifiable	Able to be explained or supported
kindling	Dry twigs, pieces of paper, etc., that burn easily and are used to start a fire
languish	To continue for a long time without activity or progress in an unpleasant or unwanted situation
legacy	A gift from the past; something handed down from the past to the future
legal authority	Any provision of law or regulation that carries the force of law, including, for example, statutes, rules and regulations, and court rulings
legislation	A law or set of laws made by a government
legitimacy	Allowable according to rules or laws; real, accepted, or official
lynched	Killed illegally, especially by hanging, as punishment for a crime
medium	Different modes in which information is transmitted
modest	Not very large in size or amount
morale	The level of enthusiasm or confidence in a person or group to conquer a challenge
motivation	The act or process of giving someone a reason for doing something; the condition of being excited or passionate about what you are doing
myelogenous leukemia	A cancer of the blood and bone marrow
obliterate	Destroy completely
oblivion	The state of being unconscious or unaware; the state of not knowing what is going on around you

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
opinion	A belief that does not have to be based in facts, a personal perspective or viewpoint
organize	Bring together
ostentatiously	Displaying wealth, knowledge, etc., in a way that is meant to attract attention, admiration, or envy
paralysis	A state of being unable to function, act, or move
persevere	To bear up under—and to function despite of—adversity
person	Human being
perspective	Viewpoint
persuasion	The ability to convince someone to do something
pioneer	A person who helps create or develop new ideas, methods, etc.
plaintiff	The person who begins a lawsuit against someone else
politely	In a way that shows good manners or respect
potent	Very effective or strong
primary source	A direct or firsthand account that provides unaltered information
prominent	Well-known or respected
provocation	An action or occurrence that causes someone to become angry or to begin to do something
radicalized	Cause (someone) to become an advocate of far-reaching, sometimes extreme, political or social change
rallied	Joined to support (someone or something) in a difficult time or situation

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
rebellion	A resistance against authority, such as a government, or against what is considered confining
reforms	Changes in law or policy
regime	Form of, or a, government
representational art	Art that depicts objects as they appear in real life
repression	The act of using force to control someone or something
researchable	A question that can be researched
revanchism	A policy of seeking to retaliate, especially to recover lost territory
revolution	A massive change in beliefs and approaches of doing things; the transformation that is a result of a major upheaval
righteousness	Fairness, goodness, justice
savagery	A cruel or violent quality
scouted	Searched out
secondary source	An account that interprets, describes, analyzes, or summarizes information from primary sources
segregation	The action of separating people based on the color of their skin
sentinel	Soldiers who guard a door or gate—sometimes used figuratively
shrewdly	Having or showing an ability to understand things and to make good judgments; mentally sharp or clever
social movement	A group action or organized activities of a group that strives toward a common goal around social change
sociologist	A person who studies society, social institutions, and social relationships

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
solipsist	A person who adheres to the philosophy that your own existence is the only thing that is real or that can be known
sparked	Action, occurrence, etc., that causes something larger to happen
status quo	The current situation: the way things are now
strategy	A thorough plan; a method or approach
succinct	Presenting the most important information in an efficient way
sustained	Continued
synthesize	The act of combining many things to form one thing
systemic	Of or relating to an entire system
texture	How the surface of an object feels, or looks like it might feel, if you touched it
totalitarian	Controlling the people of a country in a very strict way with complete power that cannot be opposed
transformation	A significant change in the form, structure, character, or nature of something or someone
transmit	To send from one point to another; to communicate; to spread
trivial	Unimportant
troublemaker	Someone who causes problems or difficulties
truism	A commonly heard true statement
turning point	A point in time when something that brings a big change happens
upended	To be turned over—often used figuratively
upheaval	Transformation, radical alteration

Module 4: *Teens as Change Agents* – continued –

Word	Definition
utopian	Description of an imaginary place in which the government, laws, and social conditions are perfect
veneer	A coating over the surface of something that covers what's underneath
viva la revolución	Translates as "long live the revolution"—initially used in the context of the French Revolution (1789–1799)
vulnerable	In a position where one can be hurt