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China Lesson Plan  
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## Lesson Plan on China – Hua Mu Lan with Emphasis on Language Arts and Fine Arts

Objective - Students will read the “Ballad of Hua Mu Lan” and then watch the movie of the opera “Hua Mu Lan” and compare it to the Disney version of “Mulan.”

This will be a one week unit for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders with a one hour class per day.

Materials Needed – ballad poem, and two movies on Hua Mu Lan

Standards Based Upon Ohio Content Standards

### **Language Arts**

Reading Applications: Informational, Technical and Persuasive Text  
By Grades 11 and 12:

D. Synthesize the content from several sources on a single issue or written by a single author, clarifying ideas and connecting them to other sources and related topics.

### **Fine Arts**

Historical, Cultural and Social Contexts

Students understand and appreciate the historical, social, political and cultural contexts of drama/theatre in societies both past and present. Students identify significant contributions of playwrights, actors, designers, technicians, composers/lyricists, choreographers, directors, producing organizations and inventors to dramatic/theatrical heritage. Students analyze the social and political forces that have influenced and do influence the function and role of drama/theatre in the lives of people.

Benchmark A: Determine the authenticity and effectiveness of a dramatic/theatrical work or experience in terms of style, time period, culture and theatre heritage.

By grade 12

3. Research the historical background of a script as a basis for interpretation and presentation.

Analyzing and Responding Standard

Students respond to dramatic/theatrical texts, experiences and performances by describing the distinguishing characteristics and interpreting meaning, themes and moods. Students analyze the creative techniques used in creating and performing dramatic/theatrical works and evaluate dramatic/theatrical works using appropriate criteria.

Benchmark B: Indicate the artistic techniques used in planning and performing drama/theatre work.

Grade 11

3. Explain how the playwright's choices influence the message.

Connections, Relationships and Applications

Students identify similarities and differences between drama/theatre and other art forms. Students recognize the relationship between concepts and skills learned through

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drama/theatre with knowledge learned in other curricular subjects, life experiences and potential careers in and outside the arts. Students recognize the benefits of lifelong learning in drama/theatre.

Benchmark C: Explain how the arts are an index to social values and accomplishments of a civilization.

By grade 12

3. Analyze relationships among cultural norms, artistic expression, and ethics and the choices made in dramatic/theatrical productions.

### Lesson Plan

Day One – The teacher will present background information about the legend of Hua Mu Lan in a lecture format. Then students will read the “Ballad of Hua Mu Lan.” Students will prepare a graphic organizer of the events that occur in the poem.

Day Two – Students will be introduced to the Disney movie “Mulan” and will be asked to keep a graphic organizer of the events of the movie. They will watch the first 50 minutes of the film.

Day Three – Students will watch the second half of the movie and will continue to keep record of the action taking place in the movie.

Day Four – Students will be introduced to the movie version of the opera of Hua Mu Lan. They will be instructed to look for similarities and differences between the ballad poem and Disney movie. They will watch the first half of the movie.

Day Five – Students will finish watching the opera version of the Hua Mu Lan. The class will discuss the similarities and differences they found.

Day Six – Students will write a 3-5 paragraph essay. They may compare and contrast the three versions of Hua Mu Lan. The students may write on similarities and differences and try to decide why the three versions differ so much. Finally, they may write an essay on which version they like best and why.

### Assessment

The graphic organizer will be part of the assessment to check for story elements as a participation grade. A 3-5 paragraph compare and contrast essay or an explanation of which version the student liked best and why will be completed.

Differentiation - Some students may need to have a prepared graphic organizer to use to write their thoughts down rather than creating their own. Other students may need key words and phrases already listed on their graphic organizer and will add notes to it for key thoughts. The essay will be limited to a paragraph for some students while regular education students will do a 3-5 paragraph essay.

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### Resources

Andersen, Peta Jinneth. Fairy Tale Fridays. 6 May 2009. 6 May 2009  
<[http://www.petajinnathandersen.com/ff\\_mulan.html](http://www.petajinnathandersen.com/ff_mulan.html)>.

Disney's Mulan. Dirs. Barry Cook and Tony Bancroft. Perf. Eddie Murphy and Ming-Na.  
1998.

Hua Mu Lan. Dir. Yueh Feng. Perf. Ivy Ling Po and Han Chinh. 1998.