

Lesson Plan for Korea: *P'ansori*

Purpose: This lesson is intended to introduce students to the ancient Korean art of storytelling called *p'ansori*.

Target Grade Level: 12

Topic: *p'ansori*

Concepts: *p'ansori* narratives
p'ansori performance
5 Confucian cardinal virtues

Materials: "*P'ansori*, the Ancient Korean Art of Storytelling" by Chan E. Park in Traditional Storytelling Today edited by Margaret Read MacDonald
Audio CD, Label Wea, ASIN B00005HT5V Korea's Epic Art and Instruments Kim So-Hee \$21.99 from Amazon.com

Key idea: During the 19th Century, *p'ansori* flourished in Korea as drama/literature/music entertainment and Confucian edification

Skills: Knowledge--Students will be able to retell the 5 *p'ansori* narratives in their own words

Application--Given the 5 Confucian cardinal virtues, students will be able to match the virtue with its exemplification in *p'ansori* narrative

Analysis--Students will be able to compare and contrast *p'ansori* performance to traditional Western genres of storytelling and performance

Procedures:

1. Introduce the lesson by asking students to name stories they all know--e.g. The Little Engine that Could, Beauty and the Beast, Snow White--and discuss the lesson each teaches.
2. Introduce the 5 Confucian cardinal virtues of filial piety, chastity, loyalty, respect for older siblings, and faith between friends. Discuss and give examples of each.
3. Hand out background information on *p'ansori* (handout A) narratives and read aloud.

4. Hand out 5 synopses of *p'ansori* narratives (handout B) and read aloud. After reading each narrative, list it on the board with key character names and incidents.
5. Students match the synopsis to the Confucian virtue it exemplifies and discuss how it does so:
 - filial piety--Song of Sim Ch'ong
 - chastity--Sh'unhyang
 - loyalty--Song of the Underwater Palace
 - respect for older siblings--Song of Hungbu
 - faith between friends--Song of the Red Cliff
6. Students listen to a CD track Scene from Shim Ch'ung Ga and discuss their reactions.
7. Read handout C on the 3 vital aspects of *p'ansori* singing.
8. Students take roles of Narrator, Officer, Magistrate and 10 Ch'unhyangs, one for each "rap". Students perform this Song of Ten Raps, miming the action.
9. Students discuss comparisons and contrasts between *p'ansori* and familiar Western genres such as storytelling, musicals, operettas, operas, folk ballads, parables, etc.

Evaluation: Students write a paragraph comparing and contrasting *p'ansori* with familiar Western genres. Which of the 5 narratives did students find most effectively portrayed a Confucian virtue? Discuss why.

Relationship to English Language Arts Standards:

Reading Applications: Literary Text

5. Analyze variations of universal themes in literary texts.

7. Compare and contrast varying characteristics of American, British, world and multi-cultural literature.

Communication: Oral and Visual

1. Apply active listening strategies

Grade Adaptation: This lesson could be made suitable for lower grades by using only one *p'ansori* narrative, probably Song of the Underwater Palace. The Song of Ten Raps is probably too adult in content for grades lower than 10.