LESSON PLAN

Jupiter Neptune Minerva and Momus

GRADES	TIME	READING LEVEL
4–8	50 min	5

Lesson flow



5 min

Opening Hook

- Begin with a brief discussion on what makes a creation perfect. Ask students to describe their ideal creation and why.

15–20 min

Story Exploration

- Read the story aloud to the class. Pause to highlight key moments and encourage students to note their reactions.

15 min

Analysis Exercises

- Divide students into small groups to analyze each character's actions. Each group will present their findings on the impact of criticism in the story.

10 min

Application/Reflection

- Have students write a short reflection on a time they encountered criticism and how it affected them or someone they know.

5 min

Assessment Strategy

- Collect reflections and assess understanding through a quick exit ticket where students summarize the moral of the story in one sentence.

STORY OVERVIEW

- **Title and moral/theme**: Jupiter, Neptune, Minerva, and Momus; Moral: Relentless criticism and envy can lead to one's downfall.
- **Plot Summary**: In this ancient legend, Jupiter, Neptune, and Minerva create the first man, bull, and house, respectively. They appoint Momus as a judge to determine whose creation is the most perfect. However, Momus's envy leads him to criticize each creation, ultimately resulting in his expulsion from Olympus.
- **Key Characters and their Significance**:
  - **Jupiter**: Represents creation and authority; symbolizes rightful pride in one’s work.
  - **Neptune**: Embodies strength; signifies the importance of functionality in creation.
  - **Minerva**: Stands for wisdom and craft; highlights the value of thoughtful design.
  - **Momus**: The critic; illustrates the destructive nature of envy and relentless faultfinding.

LESSON FUNDAMENTALS

- **Learning Objectives**:
  - Students will understand the moral implications of the story.
  - Students will analyze the characters' actions and their consequences.
  - Students will relate the themes of the story to real-life situations.
  - Students will develop critical thinking skills through discussion.
- **Discussion Questions**:
  1. What are the consequences of Momus’s relentless criticism?
  2. How does each character's creation reflect their values and skills?
  3. Can you think of real-life examples where criticism has led to negative outcomes?
- **Required Materials**:
  - Copies of the story
  - Whiteboard and markers
  - Discussion notes handout

✓ Original text available on the story page.