

Lights, Camera, FILM Literacy!
Lesson Plan #10

Topics:

Journal Writing
The Poor Little Rich Girl (1917)
Vocabulary and Idioms
Analyzing via Three Aspects of Film

Outcomes:

Students will follow organizational procedures.
Students will see and hear applicable vocabulary.
Students will apply the meaning of idioms used in the context of *The Poor Little Rich Girl*.
Students will read intertitles used in *The Poor Little Rich Girl*.
Students will analyze *The Poor Little Rich Girl* via the three aspects of film.

Materials:

Writing journals
computer
Post-it notes
Chart Paper

FOR THE TEACHER: Intertitle Teacher Notes for *THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL*

HANDOUTS: *THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL* Intertitles
Rating Literary, Dramatic, and Cinematic Aspects of Silent Film

BOOK: *Mary Pickford Rediscovered* by Kevin Brownlow

DVD's: *THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL*

New Vocabulary: tyrant, grim, organ grinder, milestone, dismissed, dilemma, homestead, sacrilege, escapade, delirium, frenzied, ceases, distress, whirlpool, gingham

Sequence of Events:

I. Journal Activity (15)

Prompt:

What are your reactions to matching music to the emotions that you, as a filmmaker, would like your audience to feel ?

II. POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL Intertitles: (30)

1. Tell students...

"A composer named Phillip Carli wrote a musical score for the Mary Pickford you are now going to see."

*Remind students that in the PBS documentary, one of Mary Pickford's films was mentioned as being the most popular up to that time...**THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL**, adapted from the novel by Eleanor Gates.*

*Tell students that **THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL** was selected in 1991 to be preserved in the National Film Registry at the Library of Congress. Less than 500 films are currently included.*

Tell students that to be totally prepared for this viewing experience, they need to understand the vocabulary and expressions on the film's intertitles.

HAND OUT: *THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL* Intertitles

Use the teacher notes to review with students the selected intertitles. (**DO NOT** read *each* intertitle aloud. Students will naturally read the skipped intertitles to themselves as you move through them.)

III. THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL (90)

1. Tell students that **THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL** is a longer silent film and that the Mary Pickford Institute, in order to reach out to a new generation of viewers, recently added **BOOKENDS** to the film. This is a beginning and ending that is not part of the story itself.

2. Tell students to notice the camera shots as they view the film.

DVD: *THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL*

IV. Three Levels of Film (50)

1. Direct students to rate *THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL* via the three aspects of film and comment on each category.

HAND OUT: Rating Literary, Dramatic, and Cinematic Aspects of Silent Film

2. Discuss student reactions on these three levels.

V. Reflection (15)

1. Direct students to the hanging chart paper labeled:

**As a filmmaker, what did you especially like
About THE POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL?**

2. Hand out Post-its on which students write and post.
3. Review the comments on the Post-Its with the class, so students have a sense of what was learned that day. Make sure to clear up any misconceptions.