

MIDDLE SCHOOL VALENTINE'S DAY ELA ACTIVITIES

figurative language, rhetoric, theme, and novel activities

VOLUME TWO



figurative LANGUAGE

Teacher Guide Page
Love/Romance Novel Would You Rather Read...

Overview

This activity helps students explore new novels while practicing decision-making and written explanation skills. Students read short synopses of two novels and answer questions about them.

Teacher Guide Page: Valentine's Day Commercial Rhetorical Appeals

Overview

This activity uses Valentine's Day commercials to teach students about rhetorical appeals (ethos, pathos, logos). Students will watch a curated selection of commercials and analyze how companies use emotional connection, credibility, and logic to persuade their audience.

Why These Commercials?

There are tons of Valentine's Day commercials out there, but I selected these

because they are appropriate to middle school and either don't require skipping

or it's not safe for them to avoid. Teachers should always preview the

commercials to ensure they work in their classroom setting.

Instructions:

1. Introduce Rhetorical Appeals
2. Watch Commercials

...and then have students complete the worksheet.

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Traced
RAYMOND GERBER

Rachelle Brooks is in her senior year. She's finally earned a place on the school's premiere soccer team. Her best friend is Tate, and they have everything fun. And then everything fun. And then everything fun. And then Tate. They're going to break up, but he likes her back. After the break-up, an appointment with her new plastic doctor, this will be her last year. And then the doctor gives her a pregnancy test. And then the doctor gives her a pregnancy test. And then she gets pregnant. And then she goes twenty-four hours a day. The brace wraps her in hand, and her shoulder blades to hips. It changes how her clothes fit. And how everyone sees her—her friends, and Tate. But as Rachelle confronts all the challenges in her Brooks presents, the biggest change of all may lie in how she feels.

Crash
TAYLOR JORDAN

Josh and Jordan must come to grips with growing up and falling in love. Leaving the nest, the breaking the rules, and the first kiss. Their story is a heart-stopping climax proves a game-changer for the entire family.

Content: 4th-8th grade, 1000 words

Author: Taylor Jordan

Genre: Romance, Drama, Family

Length: 1000 words

Age: 10-14

Lexile: 800

Word Count: 1000

Reading Level: 4th-8th grade

Interest Level: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

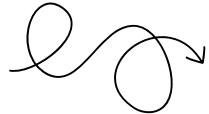
Interest Level Range: 10-14

Lexile Range: 800-1000

Word Count Range: 1000-1200

</

A MIDDLE SCHOOL ELA



VALENTINE'S DAY ELA ACTIVITIES BUNDLE

This engaging seasonal unit gives students multiple ways to practice key ELA skills while keeping them hooked with Valentine's Day-themed texts, songs, and activities. With teacher guides, scaffolded practice, and ready-to-go student pages, you'll have everything you need to bring a little Valentine's Day season energy into your classroom—without sacrificing depth or rigor.

- Valentine's Day Word Search** (color + black-and-white w/ answer key)
- Figurative Language Activity** with Teacher guide, reference chart, student practice pages, and answer key.
- Valentine's Day TV Commercials: Rhetorical Appeals** with Teacher guide, curated video links, reference pages (ethos, pathos, logos), and student analysis worksheets
- Valentine's Songs Theme/Main Idea** with Teacher guide, curated playlist, and student lyric/theme analysis sheets
- Love Story "Would You Rather Read..." Activity** with Teacher guide + slides and student response

Valentine's day-themed ELA activities bundle

This bundle of Valentine's Day-themed activities helps middle schoolers practice figurative language, rhetoric, theme, and independent reading skills, while keeping them engaged with seasonal texts, commercials, songs, and novels. With teacher guides, reference charts, and scaffolded practice, you'll have everything you need to make Valentine's Day both academic and fun.

Here's what they'll learn:

- Figurative Language Foundations:** Identify, explain, and create similes, metaphors, idioms, personification, irony, and more in Valentine's Day-themed sentences.
- Rhetorical Appeals in Media:** Analyze how ethos, pathos, and logos are used in Valentine's Day commercials to persuade audiences.
- Theme Through Music:** Listen to Valentine's Day season songs across genres and analyze lyrics for theme, imagery, and tone.
- Independent Reading Choices:** Explore novels through "Would You Rather" activities that get students thinking critically about genre, plot, and style.

Why this works:

Instead of random holiday worksheets, these activities combine seasonal engagement with real ELA skill-building. Students move from surface-level responses to deeper analysis using high-interest media and texts they can relate to. With built-in teacher guides, reference pages, and answer keys, you can run these activities with confidence and keep rigor high—even during chaotic Valentine's Day weeks.

Perfect for:

- Teachers who want seasonal activities that *still hit standards*
- Students who need engaging, high-interest practice to stay motivated during Valentine's Day
- Any middle school ELA class looking to weave seasonal fun into figurative language, media analysis, and theme work

Teachers like you have said...



This resource cost me money! **After reading this, the students couldn't wait to read some of these novels.** I had a bunch in my library, but I ordered the rest quickly. When they came, my students couldn't wait to get their hands on the new books! That made my teacher heart happy!"
– Kingdom A.



My kids loved using this resource for their school day. **They were engaged in the resource and had no trouble getting started. It didn't take a lot of time to prepare this resource, so it was easy for to use quickly.** –Shannon H.



I love all of Martina's things! I bought this because my students loved the similar packet she made with **Valentines English activities** - I especially love the pick a book activity :) –Literary Jane



"I love all of Martina's resources, so when I heard she was making a Halloween DIGITAL activity, I had to jump on it! This was perfect for my students to do remotely. **They got to choose which activities they wanted to do, so I love the variety.** Plus, most of these topics were already covered in class (thanks to her other units), so I didn't have to reteach anything!"
–Christian B.



I used this mainly for the mood and tone tasks and it did not disappoint. **My students were so engaged and interested in these activities. Everything you do is GOLD.**" –Jennifer S.



My students loved the "would you rather" horror book activity! Many of them found new books to try out and had fun discussing with one another why they would pick one over the other! –Niewo Knows Best

MIDDLE SCHOOL VALENTINE'S DAY ELA ACTIVITIES

figurative language, rhetoric, theme, and novel activities
VOLUME TWO



DIGITAL GOOGLE SLIDES LINKS:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PAGE	CONTENT
3	Valentine's Day Word Search (COLOR)
4	Valentine's Day Word Search (BLACK AND WHITE)
5	Valentine's Day Word Search ANSWER KEY
6	Figurative Language TEACHER GUIDE PAGE AND LINKS
7	Figurative Language Reference Pages
11	Valentine's Day Figurative Language (COLOR)
13	Valentine's Day Figurative Language (BLACK AND WHITE)
15	Valentine's Day Figurative Language ANSWER KEY
16	Valentine's Day TV Commercials Rhetoric TEACHER GUIDE AND LINKS
18	Rhetoric reference pages
22	Valentine's Day TV Commercials Rhetoric (COLOR)
24	Valentine's Day TV Commercials Rhetoric (BLACK AND WHITE)
26	Valentine's Day TV Commercials Mood and Tone TEACHER GUIDE PAGE AND LINKS
28	Mood and Tone reference pages
32	Valentine's Day TV Commercials Mood and Tone (COLOR)
35	Valentine's Day TV Commercials Mood and Tone (BLACK AND WHITE)
38	Love Songs Theme/Main Idea Activity TEACHER GUIDE PAGE AND LINKS
40	Theme reference pages
44	Love songs Theme/Main Idea Activity (COLOR)
46	Love songs Theme/Main Idea Activity (BLACK AND WHITE)
48	Love Novel Would You Rather Read... TEACHER GUIDE PAGE
49	Love Novel Would You Rather Read... (COLOR)
51	Love Novel Would You Rather Read... (BLACK AND WHITE)

@MARTINA CAHILL-THE HUNGRY TEACHER

TEACHER GUIDES FOR EACH ACTIVITY

Includes teacher guides, activity materials, full-size reference materials, and student worksheets.

Teacher Guide Page Love Songs Theme Analysis

DISCLAIMER: I JUST PLAY THE SONGS. I DON'T SHOW THE VIDEOS.
PREVIEW ALL VIDEOS AND SONGS BEFORE SHOWING OR PLAYING

Teacher Guide Page Valentine's Day Figurative Language

Teacher Guide Page: Valentine's Day Commercial Mood and Tone

Overview

Teacher Guide Page Love Songs Theme Analysis

Overview

This activity uses music with love vibes to help students practice theme analysis. Students will listen to short clips from a curated list of songs across genres, then analyze the lyrics for themes, imagery, and seasonal connections.

Disclaimer

I just play the songs. I don't show the videos.

Always preview all songs before playing to check for appropriateness in your classroom.

Why This Activity?

Music provides a powerful and relatable entry point for middle schoolers. Many songs use figurative language and emotional appeals that connect easily to literary analysis skills. Plus, the fall theme helps engage students in a seasonal and creative way.

Instructions

1. Introduce the Activity

- Explain that students will analyze the lyrics and overall theme of each song.
- Remind them to listen for imagery, figurative language, tone, and message.

2. Play Song Clips

- For time management, play only the first section up to the chorus.
- Pause after each clip for quick discussion or notes.
- Use teacher notes provided for any special start times or cautions.

3. Analyze Themes

Students can work individually, in pairs, or as a whole class to identify:

- What is the central theme or message of this song?
- How does it connect to fall, change, memory, or nostalgia?
- What figurative language devices stand out?

4. Wrap-Up Writing / Discussion

- Compare how different genres express similar themes of love.
- Optional writing prompt: Choose one song and explain how its theme connects to your own love experiences.

Differentiation Ideas

- Support:** Provide lyric excerpts or guiding questions.
- Challenge:** Ask students to compare a song to a poem or short story with a similar theme.
- Engagement:** Let students suggest and analyze their own love songs.

Teacher Guide Page

Teacher Guide Page: Valentine's Day Commercial Rhetorical Appeals

Overview

This activity uses Valentine's Day commercials to teach students about rhetorical appeals (ethos, pathos, logos). Students will watch a curated selection of commercials and identify the appeals used.

Why This Activity?

There is because or I've

Teacher Guide Page Valentine's Day Commercial Rhetorical Appeals

Teacher Guide Page Love/Romance Novel Would You Rather Read...

Overview

This activity helps students explore new novels while practicing decision-making and written explanation skills. Students read short synopses of two books, decide which one they would rather read, and explain their reasoning.

Why This Activity?

This "Would You Rather" structure builds buzz around independent reading by presenting students with real choices. It also encourages them to think critically about what draws them to a book—whether it's genre, plot, theme, or style.

Instructions

1. Introduce the Activity

- Show students the slides (included in a separate file).
- Each slide presents two novels with cover images and a synopsis.

2. Student Choice

- Students read both synopses.
- They choose which book they would rather read.
- They write a short explanation for their choice, citing something specific from the synopsis that appealed to them.

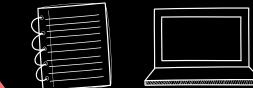
3. Optional Add-On

- If you have physical copies of the books, display them in the classroom.
- Encourage students to check them out or read the activity.
- Use this as a springboard into book talks, reading, or literature circles.

Differentiation Ideas

- Support:** Provide sentence starters like "I chose because..."
- Challenge:** Ask students to connect the book to a book or genre.
- Engagement:** Let students vote on the results on a class chart.

PRINT AND
DIGITAL



SIX VALENTINE'S DAY ELA ACTIVITIES

Name: _____ Date: _____

VALENTINE'S DAY COMMERCIALS MOOD AND TONE

Watch the Valentine's Day commercials and identify the mood and tone created in the beginning and identify the mood and tone that is created at the end of the commercials.

COMMERCIAL ONE

Product: _____
Beginning: _____
End: _____
Tone: _____
Explanation: _____

Teacher Guide Page: Valentine's Day Commercial Mood and Tone

Overview
This activity uses Valentine's Day commercials to teach students how authors and creators establish **mood and tone**. Students will watch a curated selection of commercials and analyze how elements like lighting, music, color, pacing, and dialogue work together to create a specific feeling and attitude toward the subject.

Why These Commercials?

Name: _____ Date: _____

VALENTINE'S DAY COMMERCIALS RHETORICAL APPEALS

Watch the Valentine's Day commercials and identify the ethos, pathos, and logos used in each. Some may not have all three appeals, but think critically about how all three might be included.

COMMERCIAL ONE Product: _____
Ethos: _____
Pathos: _____
Logos: _____

Teacher Guide Page: Valentine's Day Commercial Rhetorical Appeals

Overview
This activity uses Valentine's Day commercials to teach students about rhetorical appeals (ethos, pathos, logos). Students will watch a curated selection of commercials and analyze how companies use emotional connection, credibility, and logic to persuade their audience.

Why These Commercials?
There are tons of Valentine's Day commercials out there, but I selected these because they are appropriate for middle school and either don't require skipping—or I've noted which parts to avoid. **Teachers should always preview the commercials to ensure they work in their classroom setting.**

Instructions

1. **Introduce Rhetorical Appeals**
Review ethos (credibility), pathos (emotions), and logos (logic) with examples.
2. **Watch Commercials**
Provide students with the **Links Page** (below) so they can access the videos.
 - Option 1: Watch together as a class and pause to discuss.
 - Option 2: Assign in small groups or stations for independent analysis.
3. **Analyze Appeals**
After each commercial, have students identify:
 - Which appeal(s) are used?
 - What specific techniques make it effective (music, narration, imagery, characters, etc.)?
 - How does the commercial connect to Valentine's Day or emotions?

Wrap-Up Discussion / Writing
Students reflect: Which rhetorical appeal seems most common in Valentine's Day commercials? Why might advertisers lean on that strategy during the holiday season?

Differentiation Ideas

- **Advanced learners:** Compare the effectiveness of appeals across commercials.
- **Support:** Provide sentence starters or a graphic organizer (e.g., "This commercial appeals to _____ because...").
- **Cross-curricular:** Tie into media literacy or even economics (holiday spending).

Name: _____ Date: _____

ANALYZING THE THEME OF LOVE SONGS

Listen to the famous love songs and/or read the lyrics and determine the theme and main idea of the music. Provide one piece of evidence (a song lyric) that proves your theme.

SONG ONE

Product: _____
Music: _____
Theme: _____
Text: _____

Teacher Guide Page Love Songs Theme Analysis

Overview
This activity uses music with love vibes to help students practice theme analysis. Students will listen to short clips from a curated list of songs across genres, then analyze the lyrics for themes, imagery, and seasonal connections.

Disclaimer
I just play the songs. I don't show the videos.

Name: _____ Date: _____

DETERMINING THE TYPE OF FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Determine which type of figurative language is used and then explain its meaning or how it is that particular type of figurative language.

Teacher Guide Page Valentine's Day Figurative Language

Overview
This activity helps students review and practice identifying types of figurative language in a Valentine's Day-themed context. Students will use a reference chart and apply their knowledge to sentences that include idioms, similes, metaphors, hyperbole, personification, irony, and more.

Why This Activity?
Middle schoolers often recognize figurative language when they hear it in conversation, songs, or commercials, but they struggle to label and explain it. This activity gives them seasonal, high-interest examples and plenty of practice connecting definitions with real usage.

Instructions

1. **Introduce Figurative Language**
Use the reference chart (simile, metaphor, hyperbole, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification, idioms, allusion, irony). Read through definitions and examples together.
2. **Independent Practice**
Students complete the worksheet by:
 - Identifying the type of figurative language in each sentence.
 - Explaining the meaning of the phrase or why it represents that type.
3. **Review and Discuss**
Go over the answer key as a class. Encourage students to explain their thinking and notice that some phrases could spark debate (e.g., idiom vs. metaphor).
4. **Extension Options**
 - Have students create their own Valentine's Day-themed figurative language examples for each type.
 - Use them to create a "class book" or display.
 - Tie it into writing: challenge students to add at least three figurative language devices to a Valentine's Day-themed narrative.

Differentiation Ideas

- **Support:** Provide sentence stems like "This is a _____ because it..."
- **Challenge:** Ask students to explain how figurative language affects imagery, tone, or meaning in writing.
- **Engagement:** Let students act out or illustrate examples for their peers.

Name: _____ Date: _____

VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SEARCH

Find the Valentine's Day words in the word search below.

E	N	I	M	E		B	E	S	E	T	E	D	D	D
N	S	R	C	L	C	H	E	S	S	R	R	I	C	
I	S	W	T	P	S	H	S	N	E	A	D	H	H	

Teacher Guide Page Love/Romance Novel Would You Rather Read...

Name: _____ Date: _____

LOVE STORY WOULD YOU RATHER READ...

Read the synopsis for each novel pair and then write the title of the book you would rather read. Then write an explanation as to why you'd prefer that book.

Would you rather read book one:
Explanation: _____

Would you rather read book two:
Explanation: _____

Teacher Guide Page Love/Romance Novel Would You Rather Read...

Overview
This activity helps students explore new novels while practicing decision-making and written explanation skills. Students read short synopses of two books, decide which one they would rather read, and explain their reasoning.

Why This Activity?
This "Would You Rather" structure builds buzz around independent reading by presenting students with real choices. It also encourages them to think critically about what draws them to a book—whether it's genre, plot, theme, or style.

Instructions

1. **Introduce the Activity**
 - Show students the slides (included in a separate file).
 - Each slide presents two novels with cover images and a synopsis.
2. **Student Choice**
 - Students read both synopses.
 - They choose which book they would rather read.
 - They write a short explanation for their choice, citing something specific from the synopsis that appealed to them.
3. **Optional Add-On**
 - If you have physical copies of the books, display them in the classroom.
 - Encourage students to check them out or preview them after the activity.
 - Use this as a springboard into book talks, independent reading, or literature circles.

Differentiation Ideas

- **Support:** Provide sentence starters like "I would rather read _____ because..."
- **Challenge:** Ask students to connect their choice to a past favorite book or genre.
- **Engagement:** Let students vote on the most popular picks and track results on a class chart.

WOULD YOU RATHER READ... ACTIVITY

Name: _____	Date: _____
LOVE STORY WOULD YOU RATHER READ...	
Read the synopsis for each novel pair and then write the title of the book you would rather read. Then write an explanation as to why you'd prefer that book.	
Would you rather read book one: _____	
Explanation: _____	
Name: _____ Date: _____	
LOVE STORY WOULD YOU RATHER READ...	
Read the synopsis for each novel pair and then write the title of the book you would rather read. Then write an explanation as to why you'd prefer that book.	
Would you rather read book one: _____	
Explanation: _____	
 <h2>Teacher Guide Page</h2> <p>Love/Romance Novel Would You Rather Read...</p>	
<p>Overview This activity helps students explore new novels while practicing decision-making and writing explanation skills. Students read short synopses of two books, decide which one they would rather read, and explain their reasoning.</p>	
<p>Why This Activity? This "Would You Rather" structure builds buzz around independent reading by presenting students with real choices. It also encourages them to think critically about what draws them to a book—whether it's genre, plot, theme, or style.</p>	
<p>Instructions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduce the Activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Show students the slides (included in a separate file). Each slide presents two novels with cover images and a synopsis. 2. Student Choice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students read both synopses. They choose which book they would rather read. They write a short explanation for their choice, citing something specific from the synopsis that appealed to them. 3. Optional Add-On <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you have physical copies of the books, display them in the classroom. Encourage students to check them out or preview them after the activity. Use this as a springboard into book talks, independent reading, or literature circles. 	
<p>Differentiation Ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support: Provide sentence starters like "I would rather read ____ because..." Challenge: Ask students to connect their choice to a past favorite book or genre. Engagement: Let students vote on the most popular picks and track results on a class chart. 	

6TH-8TH GRADE would you rather read...

LOVE STORY EDIT

Rachel Brooks is excited for the new school year. She's *"With m/sizzle."*

"I'm explosive... I love the crossover everyone will... And I'm sizzling."

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Bracelets! Rachel Brooks is excited for the new school year. She's *"With m/sizzle."*

"I'm explosive... I love the crossover everyone will... And I'm sizzling."

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

They were just pretending. Until they weren't. And now Lara Jean has to learn what it's like to be in a real *"PS"*

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

UPSTANDER by JAMES PRELLER

Mary O'Malley is tired of seeing her mom yell at her older brother, Jonny's, drug use. Starting 7th grade is tough enough without the upheaval her brother is bringing to their family.

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Maxine and Jonah bump into each other in the crowded grocery aisle of their grocery store just as the state of California is going into lockdown, when everything changes completely. *"hello"*

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Max and Jonah bump into each other in the crowded grocery aisle of their grocery store just as the state of California is going into lockdown, when everything changes completely. *"hello"*

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Maxine and Jonah bump into each other in the crowded grocery aisle of their grocery store just as the state of California is going into lockdown, when everything changes completely. *"hello"*

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Maxine and Jonah bump into each other in the crowded grocery aisle of their grocery store just as the state of California is going into lockdown, when everything changes completely. *"hello"*

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Svetlana Chmakova's *"crush"*

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Sadie Scofield is just a few days away from the race of a lifetime. The Texas River Odyssey may be 260 miles and many days long, and odds are against her, but the run of the river reveals new dangers: trees, alligators, pitch black night—but those dangers pale in comparison to going another year knowing that her father is ashamed of her. Last year, Sadie caused a disastrous wreck that ended her father's life. She's never looked at her the same. Now, she knows that finishing the race is the only way to prove to her father that she's changed. *"Taking Up Space"*

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

Holly Green's *"In the Same Boat"*

When Sarah's crush asks her to be part of a competition, she feels pulled in all directions to stand up for what she needs to her best friends, and accept the change to feel good about herself.

LOVE STORY would you rather read...

The Summer I Turned Pretty by Jenny Han

Belly measures her life in summers. Everything good, everything magical happens between the months of June and August. But it's not quite a time to count the weeks until the next summer, a place away from the beach house, away from Susannah, and most importantly, away from James. They are the boys that Belly has known since her very first summer—they have been her brother figures, her crushes, and everything in between.

But one summer, one wonderful and terrible summer, the more everything changes, the more it all ends up just the way it should have been all along.

SHARON CAMPBELL THE BUNCHED TEACHER

SEVEN

LOVE SONG THEMES AND VALENTINE'S DAY FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

Each lesson plan has a teacher guide, all teacher links, student resources, and any applicable reference sheets.

SONG FOUR:
Main Idea: _____

Theme: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

ANALYZING THE THEME OF LOVE SONGS

Listen to the famous love songs and/or read the lyrics and determine the theme and main idea (or main message) that proves your theme.

SONG FOUR:
Main Idea: _____

Theme: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

ANALYZING THE THEME OF LOVE SONGS

Listen to the famous love songs and/or read the lyrics and determine the theme and main idea (or main message) that proves your theme.

THEME STATEMENTS

- Human beings are always searching for acceptance.
- Bravery comes in many forms.

THEME TOPICS IN LITERATURE

THEME STATEMENTS **THEME TOPICS IN LITERATURE**

Teacher Guide Page
Love Songs Theme Analysis

DISCLAIMER: I JUST PLAY THE SONGS. PREVIEW ALL VIDEOS AND SONGS.

I've compiled a list of songs and links to a selection of songs from various musicals for the sake of time and my sanity. I only play the chorus once. If the links don't work,

- "I Will Always Love You" by Whitney Houston: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3JWzJzWzPfU>
- "Best of My Love" by The Emotions: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "I Want to Know What Love Is" by Foreigner: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqHgk>
- "My Heart Will Go On (Love Theme from 'Titanic') by Celine Dion: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fcu>
- "Making Memories of Us" by Keith Urban: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "You're Still the One" by Shania Twain: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "Amazed" by Lionel Richie: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" by Queen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "Is This Love?" by Whitesnake: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "(I Just) Died in Your Arms" by Cutting Crew: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "You Make Loving Fun" by Fleetwood Mac: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "Chasing Cars" by Snow Patrol: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "Bless the Broken Road" by Rascal Flatts: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "Love Story" by Taylor Swift: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "My Girl" by The Temptations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "Ain't No Other Man" by Christina Aguilera: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "The Best" by Tina Turner: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>
- "Bleeding Love" by Leona Lewis: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4hXWzJzWzPfU>

Instructions

1. Introduce the Activity
 - Explain that students will analyze the lyrics and overall theme of each song.
 - Remind them to listen for imagery, figurative language, tone, and message.
2. Play Song Clips
 - For time management, play only the first section up to the chorus.
 - Pause after each clip for quick discussion or notes.
 - Use teacher notes provided for any special start times or cautions.
3. Analyze Themes
 - Students can work individually, in pairs, or as a whole class to identify:
 - What is the central theme or message of this song?
 - How does it connect to fall, change, memory, or nostalgia?
 - What figurative language devices stand out?
4. Wrap-Up Writing / Discussion
 - Compare how different genres express similar themes of love.
 - Optional writing prompt: Choose one song and explain how its theme connects to your own love experiences.

Differentiation Ideas

- Support:** Provide lyric excerpts or guiding questions.
- Challenge:** Ask students to compare a song to a poem or short story with a similar theme.
- Engagement:** Let students suggest and analyze their own love songs.

MARTINA CANILLE - THE HUNGRY TEACHER

9. _____ While I was singing a love song on the Karaoke machine, my boyfriend broke up with me over a text message.

Meaning:

10. _____ My alarm clock yelled at me to get out of bed this morning, and I jumped up when I realized it was finally Valentine's Day.

Meaning:

11. _____ But soft, what light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun! —Romeo & Juliet, William Shakespeare

Meaning:

12. _____ late in the day.

Meaning:

13. _____ are my feet.

Meaning:

14. _____ Day.

Meaning:

figurative LANGUAGE

Simile  **Definition:** Compares two unlike things using "like" or "as."
Example: Nick's poem to Jess said, "My love is like a red, red rose."

Metaphor  **Definition:** Comparing two things that are not alike to suggest they have something in common.
Example: "I thought love would be my cure But now it's my disease." —Alicia Keys, "Love Is My Disease"

Hyperbole  **Definition:** an exaggeration that can't possibly be true.
Example: There was a ton of candy in Ms. Day's classroom from all the Valentine's Day activities.

figurative LANGUAGE

Simile  **Definition:** Compares two unlike things using "like" or "as."
Example: Nick's poem to Jess said, "My love is like a red, red rose."

Metaphor  **Definition:** Comparing two things that are not alike to suggest they have something in common.
Example: "I thought love would be my cure But now it's my disease." —Alicia Keys, "Love Is My Disease"

Hyperbole  **Definition:** an exaggeration that can't possibly be true.
Example: There was a ton of candy in Ms. Day's classroom from all the Valentine's Day activities.

Alliteration  **Definition:** The repetition of beginning consonant sounds in two or more neighboring words or syllables.
Example: After years of being apart, she reunited with his long, lost love.

Personification  **Definition:** Giving something unhuman, actual human qualities.
Example: Jacob's Valentine's Day box was calling her name as she moved the love letter back and forth in her hands.

Idioms  **Definition:** An expression of two or more words that means something other than the actual or literal meaning.
Example: She was so beautiful, that it took his breath away.

Allusion  **Definition:** An allusion is a figure of speech that makes a reference to a place, person, or event.
Example: "Don't act like a Romeo in front of her." —"Romeo" is a reference to Shakespeare's Romeo.

Irony  **Definition:** the expression of one's meaning by using language that normally signifies the opposite.
Example: He stressed all week about making Valentine's Day perfect for his girlfriend, but when he got to school, she didn't even know it was Valentine's Day until he handed her the balloons.

ope of FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

Date: _____

9. _____ While I was singing a love song on the Karaoke machine, my boyfriend broke up with me over a text message.

Meaning:

10. _____ me to get out of bed this was finally Valentine's Day.

Meaning:

11. _____ over heels in love with her new boyfriend.

Meaning:

12. _____ high yonder window breaks? It is

nning the TYPE of FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE

which type of figurative language is used and then explain its meaning or how it is that particular type of figurative language.

She was head over heels in love with her new boyfriend.

Happiness is the china shop; love is the bull.

When I saw how cute he was, he took my breath away.

Teacher Guide Page

Valentine's Day Figurative Language

Overview

This activity helps students review and practice identifying types of figurative language in a Valentine's Day-themed context. Students will use a reference chart and apply their knowledge to sentences that include idioms, similes, metaphors, hyperbole, personification, irony, and more.

Why This Activity?

Middle schoolers often recognize figurative language when they hear it in conversation, songs, or commercials, but they struggle to label and explain it. This activity gives them seasonal, high-interest examples and plenty of practice connecting definitions with real usage.

Instructions

- 1. Introduce Figurative Language**
Use the reference chart (simile, metaphor, hyperbole, alliteration, onomatopoeia, personification, idioms, allusion, irony). Read through definitions and examples together.
- 2. Independent Practice**
Students complete the worksheet by:
 - Identifying the type of figurative language in each sentence.
 - Explaining the meaning of the phrase or why it represents that type.
- 3. Review and Discuss**
Go over the answer key as a class. Encourage students to explain their thinking and notice that some phrases could spark debate (e.g., idiom vs. metaphor).
- 4. Extension Options**
 - Have students create their own Valentine's Day-themed figurative language examples for each type.
 - Use them to create a "class book" or display.
 - Tie it to writing: challenge students to add at least three figurative language devices to a Valentine's Day-themed narrative.

Differentiation Ideas

- Support:** Provide sentence stems like "This is a _____ because it..."
- Challenge:** Ask students to explain how figurative language affects imagery, tone, or meaning in writing.
- Engagement:** Let students act out or illustrate examples for their peers.

RHETORIC AND MOOD AND TONE ADVERTISEMENT ACTIVITIES

Each lesson plan has a teacher guide, all teacher links, student resources, and any applicable reference sheets.

Name: _____ Date: _____

VALENTINE'S DAY COMMERCIALS MOOD AND TONE

Watch the Valentine's Day commercials beginning and identify the mood and tone.

COMMERCIAL ONE

Product: _____

Be _____
Ex _____
En _____
To _____
Ex _____
CO _____
Pro _____

MOOD AND TONE

TONE: The author's attitude toward a subject
MOOD: The atmosphere or feeling created by the words, images, and tone of the commercials.

MOOD AND TONE

Name: _____ Date: _____

VALENTINE'S DAY COMMERCIALS MOOD AND TONE

Watch the Valentine's Day commercials and identify the mood and tone created in the commercials.

Be _____
Ex _____
En _____
To _____
Ex _____
CO _____
Pro _____

MOOD AND TONE



Teacher Guide Page

Valentine's Day

Teacher Guide Page: Valentine's Day Commercial Mood and Tone

Overview
This activity uses Valentine's Day commercials to teach students how authors and creators establish mood and tone. Students will watch a curated selection of commercials and analyze how elements like lighting, music, color, pacing, and dialogue work together to create a specific feeling and attitude toward the subject.

Why These Commercials?
There are tons of Valentine's Day commercials out there, but I selected these because they're appropriate for middle school and require little to no editing. Teachers should always preview the commercials to ensure they fit their classroom and students.

Instructions

- 1. Introduce Mood and Tone:** Review the difference between mood (the feeling or atmosphere created for the audience) and tone (the author's or creator's attitude toward the subject). Provide a few familiar examples from stories, songs, or films.
- 2. Watch Commercials:** Give students the [Links Page](#) (below) or show the videos as a class.
 - Option 1:** Watch together and pause to discuss key moments.
 - Option 2:** Assign in small groups or stations for independent analysis.
- 3. Analyze Mood and Tone:** After each commercial, have students identify and discuss:
 - What is the mood of the commercial? How do you know?
 - What is the tone the company or narrator uses?
 - Which elements (music, lighting, sound effects, word choice, pacing, colors) help create that effect?
 - How do the choices connect to Valentine's Day themes or emotions?

Wrap-Up Discussion / Writing

- Students reflect: Which commercials created the strongest mood? Which used tone most effectively to influence the audience's reaction?
- You might also ask: How does mood or tone affect how we respond to advertisements during Valentine's Day?

Differentiation Ideas

- Advanced learners:** Compare two commercials that create contrasting moods (e.g., loving vs. funny) and explain which is more effective and why.
- Support:** Provide a sentence frame or mood/tone chart (e.g., "This commercial feels _____ because the creator used ____").
- Cross-curricular:** Connect to art or media studies by discussing color psychology or sound design in advertising.

Name: _____ Date: _____

COMMERCIAL ONE Product: _____

Watch the Valentine's Day commercials and identify the ethos, pathos, and logos used in each. Some may not have all three appeals, but think critically about how all three might be included.

COMMERCIAL FIVE Product: _____

Name: _____ Date: _____

COMMERCIAL ONE Product: _____

Watch the Valentine's Day commercials and identify the ethos, pathos, and logos used in each. Some may not have all three appeals, but think critically about how all three might be included.

COMMERCIAL FIVE Product: _____

Ethos: _____

Pathos: _____

Logos: _____

COMM: _____

Rhetoric TERM

RHETORICAL Definition: A reason or set of reasons with the aim of persuading others that an action or idea is right or wrong.

Rhetoric TERMS

RHETORICAL ANALYSIS Definition: A reason or set of reasons with the aim of persuading others that an action or idea is right or wrong.

ETHOS Definition: Ethos is an appeal to the character or credibility of the speaker. Example: Alyssa wrote a paper arguing that Martin Luther King was better at encouraging change in the Civil Rights Movement, than Martin

LOGOS Definition: An appeal to logic or persuading an audience by using facts. Example: The author used the words "research" and "study" when he told us he had had a subject matter that he was pre

PATHOS Definition: Pathos is an appeal to emotion and is a way of convincing an audience of an argument by creating an emotional response.

Rhetoric TERM

RHETORICAL Definition: A reason or set of reasons with the aim of persuading others that an action or idea is right or wrong.

Rhetoric TERMS

RHETORICAL ANALYSIS Definition: A reason or set of reasons with the aim of persuading others that an action or idea is right or wrong.

ETHOS Definition: Ethos is an appeal to the character or credibility of the speaker. Example: Alyssa wrote a paper arguing that Martin Luther King was better at encouraging change in the Civil Rights Movement, than Martin

LOGOS Definition: An appeal to logic or persuading an audience by using facts. Example: The author used the words "research" and "study" when he told us he had had a subject matter that he was pre

PATHOS Definition: Pathos is an appeal to emotion and is a way of convincing an audience of an argument by creating an emotional response.

Teacher Guide Page
Valentine's Day Commercial Rhetorical Appeals

1. Google "Parisian Love"

2. M

3. T

4. L

5. L

6. L

7. D

8. V

9. N

Overview

This activity uses Valentine's Day commercials to teach students about rhetorical appeals (ethos, pathos, logos). Students will watch a curated selection of commercials and analyze how companies use emotional connection, credibility, and logic to persuade their audience.

Why These Commercials?

There are tons of Valentine's Day commercials out there, but I selected these because they are appropriate for middle school and either don't require skipping—or I've noted which parts to avoid. **Teachers should always preview the commercials to ensure they work in their classroom setting.**

Instructions

1. **Introduce Rhetorical Appeals**
Review ethos (credibility), pathos (emotions), and logos (logic) with examples.
2. **Watch Commercials**
Provide students with the Links Page (below) so they can access the videos.
 - Option 1: Watch together as a class and pause to discuss.
 - Option 2: Assign in small groups or stations for independent analysis.
3. **Analyze Appeals**
After each commercial, have students identify:
 - Which appeal(s) are used?
 - What specific techniques make it effective (music, narration, imagery, characters, etc.)?
 - How does the commercial connect to Valentine's Day or emotions?

Wrap-Up Discussion / Writing

Students reflect: Which rhetorical appeal seems most common in Valentine's Day commercials? Why might advertisers lean on that strategy during the holiday season?

Differentiation Ideas

- **Advanced learners:** Compare the effectiveness of appeals across commercials.
- **Support:** Provide sentence starters or a graphic organizer (e.g., "This commercial appeals to _____ because...").
- **Cross-curricular:** Tie into media literacy or even economics (holiday spending).

DIGITAL STUDENT NOTEBOOK AND GOOGLE SLIDES INCLUDED

THE HUNGRY TEACHER'S TERMS OF USE

EACH PAGE OF THIS DOCUMENT IS COPYRIGHTED

YOU MAY NOT

- YOU **MAY NOT** CLAIM ANY PART OF THIS DOCUMENT AS YOUR OWN.
- YOU **MAY NOT** SHARE OR SELL ANYTHING BASED ON THIS DOCUMENT.
- YOU **MAY NOT** POST ANY PART OF THIS DOCUMENT ONLINE OR ON A SHARED SERVER.
- FOR EDITABLE RESOURCES, YOU **MAY NOT** EDIT THEM TO BE REDISTRIBUTED IN ANY WAY, CLAIMED AS YOUR OWN IN ANY WAY, OR ALTERED AND SHARED AS IF IT WERE MY ORIGINAL WORK.

YOU MAY

- THIS PRODUCT IS DESIGNED FOR **PERSONAL USE IN ONE CLASSROOM** (ONE TEACHER) ONLY. FOR USE IN MULTIPLE CLASSROOMS, PLEASE PURCHASE ADDITIONAL LICENSES.
- **FREEBIES:** IF YOU CHOOSE TO SHARE ONE OF MY FREEBIES ON YOUR WEBSITE OR ON SOCIAL MEDIA, PLEASE SHARE A LINK FOR PEOPLE TO DOWNLOAD THE ITEM FROM ME AT THE ORIGINAL SOURCE.
- **BLOGGERS:** FEEL FREE TO BLOG ABOUT USING MY PRODUCTS IN YOUR CLASSROOM OR USE THE COVER PAGE TO A RESOURCE AS LONG AS YOU CREDIT ME AND PROVIDE A LINK TO THE ITEM AT THE ORIGINAL SOURCE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PURCHASE AND FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN PROTECTING MY WORK



mARTiNA@THEHUNGRYTEACHERHUB.COM



THANK YOU SO MUCH!



FOR TEACHING IDEAS, FREEBIES, AND OTHER FUN STUFF CHECK OUT
my BLOG, INSTAGRAM FACEBOOK PAGE, STORE AND PINTEREST



martina
THE hungry **TEACHER**

CONNECT WITH me



[TEACHERSPAYTEACHERS.COM/STORE/MARTINA-CAHILL-THE-HUNGRY-TEACHER](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/store/martina-cahill-the-hungry-teacher)



[HTTPS://WWW.PINTEREST.COM/THEHUNGRYTEACHR](https://www.pinterest.com/thehungryteachr)



[@THEHUNGRYTEACHER8TH](https://www.instagram.com/thehungryteacher8th)



[FACEBOOK.COM/THEHUNGRYTEACHER/](https://www.facebook.com/thehungryteacher/)



[THEHUNGRYTEACHERBLOG.COM](https://www.thehungryteacherblog.com)



[MARTINA@THEHUNGRYTEACHERHUB.COM](mailto:martina@thehungryteacherhub.com)



FONTS BY:

