

Curriculum Circle

How does the opera *The Italian Girl in Algiers* intersect with all academic content areas?
Begin with the opera and brainstorm connections to all curricula.



Lesson Plan Stems for *The Italian Girl in Algiers*

How does the opera *The Italian Girl in Algiers* intersect with all academic content areas? Begin with a lesson plan stem and connect the opera to classroom curricula. Note how stems in one content area can connect to other content areas.

Arts and Humanities

National Standards: Dance 2-5; Music 4, 5, 6, 8, 9; Theater 3, 8; Visual Arts 1-6
State Standards: 9.1, 9.2, 9.3, 9.4

Several characters experience jealousy throughout the opera. How can this emotion be communicated clearly to an audience? What sorts of kinesthetic gestures or expressions can be used to show this emotion? How could music, costuming or makeup communicate a jealous character? [1.6, 9.1, 9.3]

What is the difference between a music conservatory and a music school? What choices does a student have to consider when choosing to attend a conservatory or a school? What are the pros and cons of both? What are parallel choices in dance, theater, and visual arts? [1.1, 1.8, 9.2, 13.1, 13.2]

Both Donizetti and Rossini adapted previous librettos from librettist Anelli. Who was Anelli and what was his contribution to the arts? Was it common practice to adapt other previous operas to make new operas? Why would a composer want to do this? [1.4 9.2]

What is the difference between opera buffa and opera seria? What kinds of audiences would prefer one form over another? Why might one form appeal to different audiences? Write a short essay to describe your own preference. [1.1, 1.3, 9.3, 9.4]

In one seven-year stretch, Rossini composed fifteen of his 39 operas. Compare this kind of productivity to that of your favorite pop singer or movie star. [1.8, 9.2, 13.3]

Though many composers remain active practitioners of their art until they are no longer able, Rossini stopped writing operas in 1829, 40 years before his death. Why do you think he did this? What did Rossini do in those remaining 40 years? [8.4, 9.2]

In 1792, the year Rossini was born, Beethoven began studying with Haydn. Could Beethoven, Haydn and Rossini have met? Did their music influence Rossini? With whom did Rossini study? How did his teacher's musical beliefs and practices affect Rossini's compositions? Did Rossini teach any other famous composers? What kind of payment would have been exchanged for the lessons? [1.8, 8.4, 9.1, 9.2]

Rossini studied counterpoint under Mattei. What is counterpoint? Why is it important? When was it most popular? Why did composers begin to stray from it? [9.1, 9.2]

Rossini's father was Pesaro's (his home town's) public 'trombetta'. What was a public trombetta, and what were their duties? Do trombettas exist in a different form today? What is a trombetta called in English, French or German? [1.1, 8.1, 8.4, 9.2]

The year Rossini was born; Domenico Cimarosa wrote *The Secret Marriage (IL Matrimonia Segreto)* Would Rossini have had the opportunity to see this opera in his lifetime? Do you think it might have influenced Rossini's own writing? [8.4, 9.2]

In 1813, the London Philharmonic was founded. Compare the cultural opportunities available to someone living London, Paris, Vienna, and Rome in the early 1800s. Where would they have gone for entertainment? Who would have been able to afford it? [6.5, 8.4, 9.2]

What do you think Rossini's "philosophy of life" might have been, based on the behaviors of the characters in his opera? Contrast your ideas with this philosophy or the philosophy of Schopenhauer or Kierkegaard. [1.3, 8.1, 9.3]

What is the difference between drama giacosa and drama buffo? What are the other varieties of comic opera? Create a chart to compare these different kinds of comedy. [1.8, 2.6, 9.1]

Design a set for *The Italian Girl in Algiers* that uses authentic patterns from Islamic art. How could the set be lit on stage without losing details in the patterns? [3.4, 8.4, 9.2]

Career Education and Work

National Standards: Economics 2

State Standards: 13.1, 13.2, 13.3, 13.4

Rossini's parents were both working musicians. Do you think this influenced Rossini's career choice? Brainstorm how many famous musicians (now and then) came from families where music was their main career. Do any other professions tend to "run" in families? Consider your own family—do you expect to follow your parents' career paths? What are the advantages and disadvantages to choosing a career that is similar to your parents'? [11.2, 13.1, 13.2]

Rossini was contracted to a specific theater. What is the difference between being commissioned and under contract? [13.2, 13.3, 13.4]

Rossini was said to be a child prodigy. What other famous professionals were also child prodigies? What difficulties might child prodigies face in their education? What difficulties do they face in the workplace? [1.8, 9.2, 13.2, 13.3]

Civics and Government

National Standards: Civics 1-5

State Standards: 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4

Describe the class systems in Italy and Algeria in the early 19th century. Create a chart comparing the two systems. What implications do these systems have for the rights or duties of each person within these class systems? [1.8, 5.1, 5.3, 8.4]

Research Muslim laws regarding marriage and the number of wives a man might have. What rights did (or do) women have in a polygamist marriage? What rights did men have? What are the responsibilities of each? Is divorce permitted? How were (or are) divorces decreed or granted? [1.8, 5.2, 8.4]

In 1792, the year Rossini was born, the Republican Party of the U.S. (later renamed the Democratic-Republican Party) was formed. How did this party lead the way to the current political parties that exist in the United States today? What were the basic beliefs of the Republican and Federalist parties then? What are the basic beliefs of the Republican, Democratic, Green, and Libertarian parties that exist now? [1.8, 5.1, 8.1]

As early as 1792, women's rights was a subject that caused political tension. Compare Mary Wollstonecraft's writings about women's rights in 1792 to the Women's Rights movement in the 1970s. [1.8, 5.2, 8.1, 8.3]

1792 also saw the beginning of James Hoban's architectural project that became known as the White House. How did the White House get its name? What is the importance of having a permanent residence for the head of state? What purpose does this serve for foreign dignitaries? What are the commonly known names of the residences for heads of state in other countries? [1.8, 5.4, 8.3, 8.4]

Congress passed the National Conscription Act in 1792, requiring all free, able-bodied white male citizens to serve in the militia. Is this act still in effect? What other countries have similar policies? [1.8, 5.2, 8.3, 8.4]

Economics

National Standards: Economics 5, 8-11

State Standards: 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5

Coffee has long been recognized as an important beverage with meals. It is a "wake up" drink in the morning and an after dinner accompaniment with dessert. From where did the earliest coffee originate? Create a map to show its spread from that country to Italy. What were some other uses for coffee other than a breakfast beverage? [6.3, 6.4, 7.4, 8.4, 11.3]

What were the major industries or exports from Algeria in the early 19th century? What are they today? [6.2, 6.4, 8.4]

The year *The Italian Girl in Algiers* premiered (1813) craps was introduced in New Orleans gambling houses. Was gambling popular in the Middle East and North Africa in the 19th century? What about nowadays? What forms of gambling are legal in the United States? Extension: Explore all the operas in which gambling appears. [1.8, 6.4, 6.5, 8.4]

The New York Stock Exchange was formed the same year that Rossini was born, 1792. How did the founding of this institution impact the United States economy? What role does the NYSE play in today's economy? [6.1, 6.2]

Environment and Ecology

National Standards: Economics 1, 2, 4; Geography 2, 5
State Standards: 4.2, 4.4, 4.6, 4.8

What kinds of ships would Barbary pirates have sailed? What health and environmental hazards existed aboard these kinds of ships? Consider diseases, food, waste disposal, cleaning, natural hazards, etc. [4.8, 7.4, 10.1, 10.2]

What style of garden would be planted in Islamic cultures in the 19th century? What plants and flowers would have been grown in Algeria? Would religious symbols have been incorporated into an Algerian garden? Compare this to a 19th century Italian garden. [4.2, 4.4, 7.2, 8.4]

Compare the biomes of a region in Italy and Algeria. What "living things" are present in each region? What environmental differences might Isabella and Lindoro experience in their new Algerian home as compared to their home in Italy? [4.6, 4.8, 7.4]

What native animals are found in the Middle East and North Africa? What animals would rulers of these regions have kept on their palace grounds in the 19th century? Design a wild animal habitat for the palace grounds. What logistics need to be considered to maintain wild animals in captivity? [3.3, 4.4, 4.6, 4.8]

Family and Consumer Sciences

National Standards: Health 3, 4, 5, 7; Economics 3, 6
State Standards: 11.1, 11.2, 11.3, 11.4

Rossini enjoyed good food and drink, and thus became a rather rotund man in the latter half of his life. Add up the cost of preparing an everyday dinner and compare it to the cost of preparing a feast (such as might be served in your house over the holidays.) What would it cost to "feast" every evening for one year? Research a recipe from the early 1800s that might have been served to Rossini. What would it cost to prepare that dish today? Nowadays, we recognize obesity as a disease. How was obesity viewed in Rossini's lifetime? [1.8, 2.2, 2.5, 10.2, 11.1, 11.3]

The second half of Rossini's life revolved around food and gastronomy. What recipes have emerged as signature dishes related to Rossini's palate? Create a menu that reflects these dishes. Round out the menus with appropriate additional dishes. Design the hard copy menu that servers would give to customers in a restaurant that featured the Rossini favorites. Be sure to consider prices for each dish, graphic design, descriptions, etc. [1.8, 9.1, 11.3]

Most people enjoy foods from a variety of cultures, such as Mexican, Italian, German, etc. These ethnic foods have enriched our lives and broadened cultural understandings. What Middle Eastern foods that have become part of the "main stream" of American culture? What Middle Eastern foods are available in your home town restaurants? Prepare and bring a Middle Eastern dish to share with the class as part of a Middle Eastern gastronomic experience. What are the cultural expectations for the way in which this cuisine is eaten? Consider the utensils, serving style, appropriate use of hands, etc. [1.8, 11.3, 12.3]

Jealousy is a common theme in *The Italian Girl in Algiers* and in many other operas. What makes jealousy a good topic? How does jealousy affect people and situations? Is jealousy important for successful relationships or does it only cause problems? Describe how jealousy has impacted someone of your acquaintances or in a favorite book or movie. [1.3, 11.2]

Mustafà and Elvira are tired of each other. They each wanted to be with a different person. How have laws and cultural mores changed from the early 1800s to today concerning marriage and divorce. [11.2]

Describe the clothing used in Islamic society in North Africa in the 19th century. What would a Tarbisha girl wear in the 19th century? Research the wearing of veils in traditional Islamic cultures. How have clothing requirements changed in 200 years? [9.2, 11.4]

Geography

National Standards: Geography 1, 2

State Standards: 7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4

The opera *The Italian Girl in Algiers* is located in North Africa. Examine a map and describe the difficulties and pleasures of this region of the world. What ocean does the Barbary Coast touch? What hazards are typical of this ocean, land mass, weather patterns and wild life? How did sailors navigate though these waters? What other countries also border this ocean? [7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4]

The economy of Algiers in the 19th century was one that included a great deal of trading with other countries, both importing and exporting goods. Create a map displaying the trade routes between Italy and Algiers. Indicate the areas prone to attack by pirates and thieves. Which is the most famous of these areas? [7.2, 7.4, 9.1]

The Italian Girl in Algiers is set in an Islamic country in North Africa in the 19th century. Create a map that shows the regions of the world that were considered Islamic countries at that time. [7.1, 8.4]

In the 8th and 9th centuries there were a long series of battles or wars between the Christian world and the Muslim world. What were these series of battles called by each side? What cultural influences did the Muslim Conquest bring? What technological advances came with the conquest? What cities were Islamic strongholds? What places from this initial conquest remain Islamic today? [3.7, 3.8, 7.1, 7.4, 8.4]

Contrast Algiers in 1813 to Algiers today in as many ways as possible. Consider, but don't be limited to, climate; economics; physical characteristics of the area; industry; technology; government; religion; food; and interactions between the people and the physical place. [7.1, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4]

Health, Safety, and Physical Education

National Standards: Physical Education 1; Health 5-7

State Standards: 10.1, 10.2, 10.3, 10.4, 10.5

In *The Italian Girl in Algiers*, Isabella is shipwrecked/crashed and then captured by pirates. How should you be prepared for a disaster? Create a list of supplies and procedures that one should follow in times of disaster such as fire, flood, earthquake, power outages, vehicular problems, etc. Describe what panic can do to these plans. [1.8, 3.8, 10.3]

In *The Italian Girl in Algiers* Isabella becomes part of a harem after her capture. In the harem many people live, sleep and eat in a relatively confined area, with limited access to people outside the harem. Do only women live there? What are the things they might share? How does this sharing increase the opportunities for the spreading of illness? Explore the passing of germs in a small group of people with a scientific experiment. [3.2, 10.1, 10.2, 10.3]

In *The Italian Girl in Algiers* there is a lot of dancing. One of the dances important to the opera is the waltz. What of the kinds of waltzes danced in the 19th century? What other operas include the waltz as an important part of the story? What type of opera includes dancing? Select appropriate music and demonstrate a basic waltz with a partner. Create your own *Dancing with the Stars*TM competition to select the favorite waltz pair. [9.1, 9.2, 10.4, 10.5]

The art of belly dancing is an ancient tradition that has become a fine art, mixing elements of ballet and tribal traditions. What are some of the basic steps and moves that belly dancers learn? What kind of conditioning training do belly dancers practice? Learn several different moves for each part of your body: hand gestures, foot patterns, head moves, and torso/hip moves. Design costumes that can be added to your own clothes worn in school to perform your moves. Create your own *Dancing with the Stars*TM competition to select the favorite dancer. [9.1, 9.2, 10.4, 10.5]

History

National Standards: World History 5-12; Technology 1-6

State Standards: 8.1, 8.3, 8.4

In 1792, the year Rossini was born; Mary Wollstonecraft published *Vindication of the Right of Women*. Compare the views of women in this book to the women in the opera *The Italian Girl in Algiers*. How did society view women in the 1700s, 1800s, and 1900s when compared to today? Create a presentation that shares the similarities and differences in an interesting way. [1.8, 8.3]

Piracy was a huge problem on the open seas from the 1600s to 1805, when the US Marines successfully attacked and defeated the pirates on the Barbary Coast. Where is the Barbary Coast? To what countries does the term refer? Why did pirates operate from the Barbary Coast? Whom did they attack? In what did they trade? [7.1, 8.4]

In the opera, *The Italian Girl in Algiers*, the heroine is captured and sold into slavery. What is the history of women forcibly procured in the international slave/sex trade? To what extent does this trafficking in humans still exist in the 21st century? [8.4]

In the Pittsburgh Opera Company presentation of the opera *The Italian Girl in Algiers* Isabella is portrayed as a kind of Amelia Earhart figure. Who was Amelia Earhart? Why might the current production of this opera's heroine have been modeled after Ms. Earhart? [8.3, 9.3]

In the mid 19th century, what areas of the world were considered to be controlled by the Ottoman Empire? Draw a map to illustrate the areas under control. Why did the Ottoman Empire weaken after this time? [7.1, 7.4, 8.4]

In 1813 there were many grand palaces and other architectural masterpieces in the world. What North African palaces and public buildings might have influenced the set design for *The Italian Girl in Algiers*? Think about secular buildings in Egypt and even the Turkish Topkapi Palace. Could the Taj Mahal have been an influence in 1813? [1.8, 8.1, 8.4, 9.1, 9.2]

In 1813, the year the year *The Italian Girl in Algiers* premiered, what war was underway? Why were the US and Canada at war? How does geography influence attempts to seize control of a country? How do terrain, technology and natural resources influence these attempts? Who might want to seize Algiers today, and why? [7.1, 7.4, 8.3]

In 1792, the year Rossini was born, Robert B. Thomas founded *The Farmer's Almanac*. How did this information spread to the people? Was it accepted or rejected at the time and how has this changed? [1.4, 3.8, 8.3]

Who was Molly Pitcher? Why was she celebrated in 1813, the year after *The Italian Girl in Algiers* premiered? [8.3]

When thinking about the architectural styles used in the sets for *The Italian Girl in Algiers* one must see strong Middle Eastern influences. Research the major mosques around the Mediterranean area. What are the major motifs of Islamic art? How are vegetal, floral, and geometric motifs used? Are particular colors associated with symbolism? How has the dome become important in Islamic architecture? Using pictures of the Alhambra palace in Spain and label artistic motifs used in the decorations. [1.8, 8.4, 9.2]

What kind of rugs would be used in Islamic buildings? Research the design used in secular buildings vs. those used in prayer rugs in the Islamic culture. [8.4, 9.2]

Compare the major religious beliefs of Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Create a chart that shows the similarities and differences among these three religions. [1.8, 8.4]

What is the basis of modesty customs in Islam in terms of dress? Research the evolution of veils in Islamic cultures. Why did Turkey and Egypt discourage the use of veils in the early 20th century? Given the desert environment, how did this climate influence the evolution of Middle Eastern clothing? What fabrics evolved in Middle Eastern culture? [1.8, 4.8, 8.4, 9.2]

Rossini died at his estate in Passy, France, in 1868. However, he was exhumed and moved to Florence, Italy and reburied in 1887. Why was Rossini moved? What is the process at exhumation and reburial? What preauthorization and permission is needed in Pennsylvania? Was there a private or public ceremony for Rossini the second time? What other famous public figures have been moved elsewhere after their deaths? [4.9, 8.4]

Mathematics

National Standards: Mathematics 1-10

State Standards: 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.9, 2.10

During the French Revolution, the mob invaded the Tuileries. Create a presentation of this using scale models and figures to represent the event. [2.3, 2.9, 8.4]

Research the Islamic contributions to mathematics. What mathematical content strands or subjects contain theories or groundwork based on these contributions? [2.1, 2.9, 2.10, 2.10]

How many US dollars are there in a guinea, florin, and pound? What is the current currency of Algiers? What is the equivalent to \$100 US dollars? [2.1, 2.2]

How far is it from Rome, Italy to the plane wreck on the Algerian shore in miles and kilometers? In various planes (jet, prop 2 seater, etc.) how many miles per barrel of fuel would be needed for such a trip? How much would the fuel cost with today's prices and with 1930s prices? [2.2, 2.4, 2.5]

In *The Italian Girl in Algiers* much of the setting is in the local palace. Research the approximate size and dimensions of a typical or a specific palace in Algiers. Create a life-size blueprint of the dimensions on school grounds; comparing it to an apartment building, townhouse and single family home of today's standards. [2.2, 2.3, 2.9]

Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening

National Standards: Language Arts 1-12

State Standards: 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8

In *The Italian Girl in Algiers* there are some interesting vocabulary words that appear in the translation of the opera. Define these words and tell how they are used in the opera: adorn, aghast, aplomb, assertive, attendant, Bey, compulsory, connubial, embark, eunuchs, exalt, fulminations, genre, gloats, harem, initiation, interlude, invocation, lament, mythical, oblivious, predicament, prolific, quarrel, quest, rally, rapture, reconcile, scheme, toilette, virtue. [1.1, 1.7]

The plot of operas can sometimes be confusing to new audiences. Analyze *The Italian Girl in Algiers* and create a graphic organizer to help simplify the plot and the character relationships. Create a time line for the story. [1.1, 1.2, 1.3]

In many operas there are love triangles, a man and two women or a woman and two men. What is the love connection in *The Italian Girl in Algiers*? Relate this style of love connection to other stories in literature. Describe the plot of the opera in a few sentences. Does this simplified plot resemble that of any other stories you know? Create a comparison chart to illustrate your conclusions. [1.1, 1.2, 1.4]

In *The Italian Girl in Algiers*, Isabella is the heroine, rescuing and saving the day for multiple characters. She is portrayed as a strong minded, wily, and intelligent woman who manages to outwit all of the men in the story to achieve her goal. Investigate other heroines in literature. Brainstorm similar roles for women in other operas, plays, films and stories. Select one to compare to Isabella and create a chart comparing the two women. Compare typical female heroines vs. typical male heroes. Think about physical stature, intelligence, courage, appearance, money, family background, and any other characteristics that would influence a character to be heroic. Create a chart that shows the comparison. [1.2, 1.3, 1.8]

Isabella invents the "Italian Order of Pappataci" for Mustafà to prove his worthiness. Invent a new "Feast of Initiation" for your promotion to your next grade level. What types of outrageous activities would you have at your event? Write a description, using as many sensory details as you can, to explain your "Feast of Initiation." [1.4, 1.5]

The current production of *The Italian Girl in Algiers* changes how Isabella arrives. Does the change in setting from the original result in a better, more relevant and more moving and more entertaining show for the audience? Or does the change just reflect a fad that will disappear over time? What other stories have you read that have been updated? Describe what you think is the effect of updating older stories. Create a more modern version of your favorite children's story. [1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 8.1, 9.3, 9.4]

In *The Italian Girl in Algiers* a lot of credit is given to Italian women. What cultures, today, are viewed as having superior females in specific ways? Do the superior characteristics change with the country involved? Does the interpretation of superiority depend on the country in which the poll is taken? Poll other students to see which countries' women have "superior" reputations and for what specific characteristics. Represent your findings in an interesting way. [1.2, 1.8, 2.6, 3.2, 9.3]

Operas often reference other works of art. Gounod's opera *Romeo and Juliet* references *Queen Mab*. Coincidentally, Shelley published his poem *Queen Mab* in England the year *The Italian Girl in Algiers* premiered. Would Rossini have known about the poem? How long would it have taken for this poem to reach Italy? Would it be translated into Italian? What modern technological tools are available to speed the circulation of creative products? How would you know if others have seen your creative products? Create a small song or picture or other creative product and see how fast you know it has been seen by others. [1.4, 1.6, 1.8, 3.8, 8.4, 9.1]

Science and Technology

National Standards: Science 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8

State Standards: 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8

What kind of camels evolved throughout history? When was the camel domesticated? What physical characteristics did it develop to survive in a desert environment? How does one ride a camel? Describe the traditional saddle and decorative accoutrements. What protective charms would be used to "protect" the camel? (Older students could research the belief in the "evil eye.") [3.2, 3.3, 3.5, 9.2]

What contributions to astronomy come from the Islamic culture? Create a representation of astronomical instruments used by early astronomers in the Middle East. [3.4, 3.6, 3.7]

1792, Rossini's birth year, saw the invention of the mechanical semaphore signal by Claude Chappe, a Frenchman. What are semaphore signals? What other inventions have sprung from this one? How much as communication technology changed from the 1790s through today? Create a list of communication technologies that are no longer used today. [3.1, 3.7, 3.8]

Research the kind of Muslim battle gear that would have been used during the conquest and encountered by Europeans in the Crusades. Consider and compare the weaponry, what technological advances did the Muslims have that the others did not? [1.8, 3.7, 3.8]

1792, Rossini's birth year, Charles Bulfinch designed the State House in Hartford, CT, the oldest such building still standing. Compare and contrast buildings from the 17th century and present day. How has the architecture changed? Do you think a building built today could last through multiple eras? Why or why not? [3.4, 3.8, 9.2]

World Languages

National Standards: Foreign Language 1-5

State Standards: 12.1, 12.3, 12.4, 12.5

What is a “Bey?” What words in other languages mean the same thing as “Bey?” Is the term still used today or has another term replaced it? [1.1, 12.1]

What are the different words in French, Italian, German and English for the words “theatre,” “singer,” “opera,” and “performance.” [1.1, 12.1]

Going to a different country usually can mean needing to understand a different language and culture. What are some challenges one would face when being ushered into a new language and culture? What means of communication can someone use other than words to communicate with local residents? How can you help someone from another culture, speaking a different language, become comfortable in your classroom? [12.1, 12.3, 12.5]

What Arabic words have influenced the English language? Read some of the tales from the *Arabian Nights*. What can you learn about Islamic culture from these stories? [1.2, 12.1, 12.3]

From an English translation of the Koran, take sections which can be compared to portions of the Hebrew scripture and the New Testament. How do the stories change? What are the similarities? [1.2, 1.3, 12.3, 12.4]

Character Themes for *The Italian Girl in Algiers*

The Heartwood Institute lists seven universal character attributes: Courage, Loyalty, Justice, Respect, Hope, Honesty, and Love.

Discuss two attributes—courage and hope—after reading the synopsis of *The Italian Girl in Algiers*:

- *Courage is not only mastering fear; it is the ability to face difficulty or risk with integrity and honor.*
- *Hope guides our future through faith and aspiration, helping us to rise above selfishness and despair.*

1. How do Isabella, Lindoro, and Taddeo demonstrate courage when they find themselves in unfortunate situations? Is one more courageous than the others?
2. How can Elvira be courageous in a situation that limits her personal freedom? Is her courage justified?
3. Compare the seven principal characters' levels of courage. Whose situation has the most difficulty or risk?
4. Does Elvira hope for a reasonable outcome? When do Elvira and Mustafà exhibit selfishness?
5. Is hope wasted when its vehicle is a slave?

Heartwood Institute, www.heartwoodethics.org, 1-800-432-7810