



## Pedagogical Pathways: *The Duchess of Malfi* Revenge, Part 2

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### Objectives

After reading *The Duchess of Malfi*, this activity can help learners to:

- Relate themselves to the text
- Use dramatic elements/discourse structure of a play to tell their own story

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### Guiding Questions

1. After reading *The Duchess of Malfi*, what elements do you think are essential or typical of revenge stories?
2. Can you think of any other revenge stories? If so, is it from your own culture or another culture that you are familiar with?
3. How are they similar or different from *The Duchess of Malfi*?

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### Materials

- Build Your Own Revenge Story worksheet
- Comparisons worksheet

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### Activities

1. Think about a revenge story in your own culture, or a culture of interest to you. Write down the plot summary of the revenge story in a paragraph.
  - Include at least 3 dramatic elements of the revenge story.
  - While writing, think about how each character in the story is related?
  - Think about how this story is similar or different from *The Duchess of Malfi*?
2. Create a menu of revenge story “ingredients” in the “Build Your Own Revenge Story” worksheet based on *The Duchess of Malfi* and the story you described in Question 1.

*Note to instructor: You have the option of providing more example ingredients or discussing it together.*

<b>Build your Own Revenge Story</b>
Ingredients
Plot Elements <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A character is wronged</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
Character Elements <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
Revenge Forms <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>
Resolution/Ending possibilities <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li><li>•</li></ul>

3. Create your own revenge story in contemporary English using the “Build Your Own Revenge Story” worksheet you created as an optional reference.

(1) Describe the main characters.

(2) Write down the plot summary of your story in a paragraph (or two).

4. Fill out the “Comparisons” sheet and analyze the similarities and differences between *The Duchess of Malfi* and your own story. *Note to instructor: You have the option of providing more information in the table to help students.*

## Comparisons

	The Duchess of Malfi	Your Own Revenge Story	Similarities/Differences, Notes, etc.
When	1508-1513		
Where			
Who			
What			
How			
Why			

## Further Suggestions

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After this activity, learners can engage in activities such as:

- (1) Change or add to the ending of the *The Duchess of Malfi* to make it more of a story of enduring love and friendship; [See Pedagogical Pathways: Friendship].
- (2) Write a sequel to *The Duchess of Malfi* with the Duchess' son as the main character as a collaborative or relay writing project.