

Classroom Discussion Questions:

The Elixir of Love - premiered in 1832 and continues in popularity nearly 200 years later! The story contains elements that continue to have meaning in our lives today.

The story speaks to our own life experiences:

We each seek to be accepted and liked.

- Do you sometimes feel that no one likes you?
- What do you do to make people like you?
- Do you sometimes exclude someone so they feel unliked?

Dr. Dulcamara takes credit for something that he has not done: he lies.

- Do you sometimes feel forced into a lie?
- Do you notice in films the hero is deceived by someone in some way?
- What do you think about lying? Do you call it "exaggerating" rather than lying?

Nemorino is so happy when he realizes that Adina really does like him.

- Do you experience similar happiness when someone shows friendliness?
- Do you predict that at the end of a film that two (or more) people will happily be together at the end?
- Are there times when you find someone is really not a friend? What makes a friend?

A timeless story deals with experiences and feelings that all humans feel at some time or another: Left out without a friend/ lied to/deceived; happiness with friendships/pain with loss of friendship, and many more feelings in *The Elixir of Love* story and other stories.

An opera's story allows us to see and to experience our feelings in another person's situation!