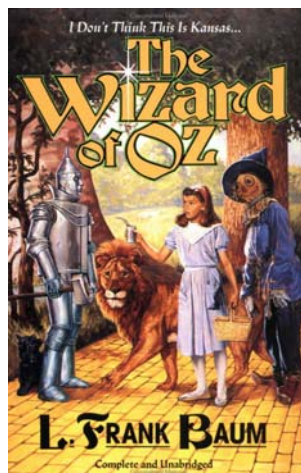
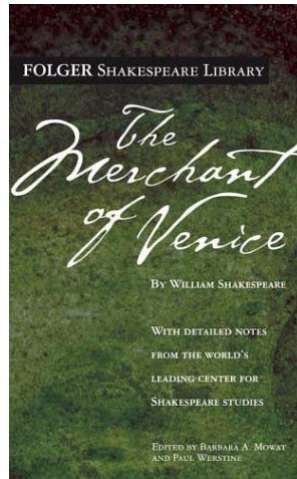


Teaching economics through literature in an enlarged Europe

The pluralistic nature of literature



Interdisciplinary studies



Teaching economics through literature

- Jaroslav Hašek
– Czech Republic
- Slavomir Mrožek
– Poland
- Drago Jančar
– Slovenia



Literary texts can help in three different ways

- They are an excellent starting point for discussion on the meaning and the essence of economic education
- The student is given the opportunity to project himself into another space and another time
- Discussion of economic thought through a fictive image of reality helps the student to acquire economic awareness

Jaroslav Hašek

An Honest Woman

Jaroslav Hašek

- The divisibility of money
- The cost of a service
- The reward for a good action
- The role of the police in a free society



Jaroslav Hašek

- Poverty and hard work



Jaroslav Hašek

- Cross-thematic integration
- Bringing together culture, economics, and politics

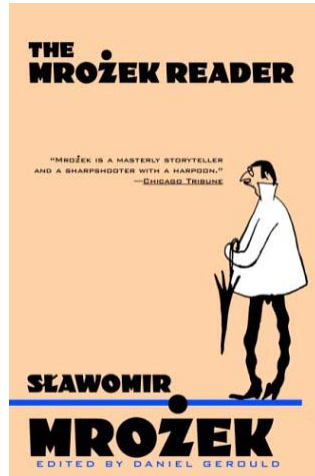


Slavomir Mrožek

The Swan

Slavomir Mrožek

- Pupils can rewrite the story from an economic point of view
- The increase of the population creates new needs
- The purchase of a swan leads to the hiring of a guard
- Low temperatures make the guard seek a friendly environment
- His duty makes him take the swan with him

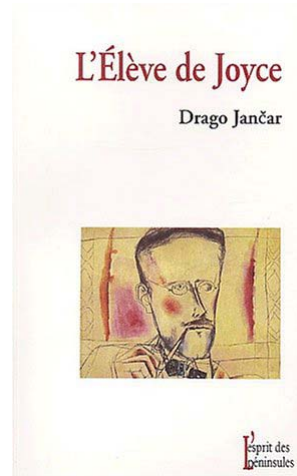


Drago Jančar

Incident in the Valley

Drago Jančar

- The two opposite economic systems, capitalism and communism, are treated as equal and even identical

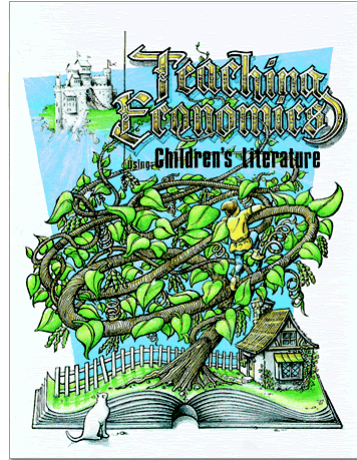


Teaching economics through literature

All three stories project the tribulations of the poor in all countries. There may be an improvement as time goes by, but there is a universality of suffering which pupils should be invited to discuss

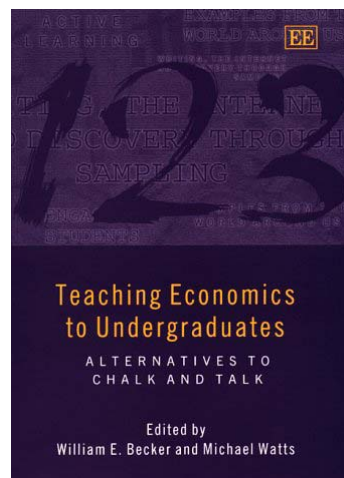
imaginative ways to teach economics

- Literary texts create attitudes and models of conduct
- Children love to listen to stories
- Students comprehend better their environment and become conscious of the fact that economics is a science of reality
- If the pupils treat the text like a game and participate in it playing roles, they can assimilate more easily economic concepts that are depicted or developed in the text



imaginative ways to teach economics

- Literature projects various social roles from everyday life, transforming knowledge into experience
- Finally, since literature is generally written by people who have not studied economics. They express common sense and not scientific thought.



Economics and literature