**INFO SHEET #4:** **Analyzing Literature**

**Competency**

**MELC:** Analyze literature as a mirror to a shared heritage of people with diverse backgrounds

**Objectives:**

After the end of the lessons, the learners are expected to be able to:

1. Define literature, heritage and diverse background.

2. Explain how literature mirrors a shared heritage of people with diverse backgrounds; and

3. Analyze literature to identify the shared heritage of people with diverse backgrounds.

**Key Information**

**Analyzing Literature**

**What is Literature?**

LITERATURE is a collective word that refers to the written works produced in a particular language, country, or age in prose or verse having excellent form or expressing ideas that are of permanent or universal interest.

Examples of written works of literature include short stories, essays, novels, plays, and poems.

**What is Shared Heritage?**

Heritage is a property, something that is inherited, passed down from previous generations. Cultural heritage includes the sites, things, and practices a society regards as old, important, and worthy of conservation. It is an expression of the ways of living developed by a community and passed on from generation to generation, including customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions, and values. When we say shared heritage, it implies a shared bond, a belonging to a community with similar culture, values, and traditions. It represents our history and our identity, our bond to the past, to our present, and the future.

**What is Diverse Background?**

Diverse background means having a group of people that are very different from each other. They may have different social and ethnic background, customs, beliefs, traditions, and culture. They may be living in one place, but they have different cultural backgrounds.

**How can literature mirror the shared heritage of diverse people?**

Whenever we stand in front of a mirror, we see our reflection. This is the same for literature. Whenever we read a piece of literary work, we see the reflection of the heritage of the group of people the author belongs to, or the author is writing about – their culture, customs, traditions, beliefs. Literature, as an imitation of human action, often presents a picture of what people think, say, and do in the society. It illuminates similarities and

differences in people around the world, which teaches readers about our unique situations and our common humanity.

It is important to analyze how literature reflects the shared heritage of people with diverse background to: 1) understand other people’s culture, customs, beliefs, and traditions which promotes cultural undestanding; 2) see the differences between our culture and that of others in an accurate and sensitive manner; and 3) learn to respect those differences.

**Proposed Performance Tasks**

Directions: Divide the class into three groups. Each group is given a story from Afro-Asian literature. Using a Venn diagram, compare and contrast the culture of the assigned country as reflected in the story with our own culture in the Philippines.