Bachata-the blues of The Dominican Republic
Students will be able to use a language other than English for communication.

Students will develop cross-cultural skills and understandings.
Format for lesson plans:

- Content: subject matter, key concepts; facts, topics, important information
- Skills: the proficiencies you want the students to learn
- Assessment: the demonstration of learning; the products and performances used as evident of skill development and content understanding
This lesson was designed to allow students to gain an understanding and appreciation of the famous dance which began in the Dominican Republic. It is a form of dance that originated from the "bachateros", those who sang about the living conditions in poor sections of the country, those who experienced hardships among their loved ones, and relationships gone bad, all singing the blues. Through lyrics and music, students will understand a version of the Hispanic blues. Students will learn the steps to the dance bachata and the cultural aspects behind it. Students will listen, interpret, and compare the old bachata to the more present day contemporary form of the Hispanic blues.
Bachata is a form of dance which began in the 1960s in the Dominican Republic. This was during a time of vast political strife and public unease, emphasizing the feelings behind the citizens.

Originally, bachata was derived from bolero, an older, upper class genre of guitar music, but from these refined beginnings, bachata was quickly transformed into something a lot more accessible.
Your own interpretation....
Ojalá que llueva café en el campo que caiga un aguacero de yuca y té del cielo una jarina de queso blanco y al sur una montaña de berro y miel

If only it would rain coffee in the fields, and a shower of yucca and tea would fall, from the sky a sprinkling of white cheese and in the south a mountain of cress and honey. Oh, oh, oh-oh-oh...

ojalá que llueva café.

If only it would rain coffee.
If only autumn would clothe my harvest with pitisalé instead of dry leaves, sowing a plain with sweet potatoes and strawberries. If only it would rain coffee.

So that on the small farms they won't suffer so much. If only it would rain coffee in the fields so that in Los Montones they would hear this chant.

If only it would rain coffee in the fields,
If only it would rain, if only it would rain,
Ay, man, If only it would rain coffee in the fields,
If only it would rain coffee
Son las cinco de la manana yyo no dormido nada Pensando en
tubellesay loco voy a parar el insomnio es mi castigoTu amor
sera mi alivio Y Hastaque no seas mia no vivire en pas Y
conositunoviopequeoy no hermoso Y se que no tequiereporsu
forma de hablarademastu no lo amasporque no da la talla no
sabecomplasertecomolohariayoprotendrrpacientesaporque
no escompetenciaPeso no hay motivosparayorespetarloNoo,
no es amor, lo quetsientes se llama obsession, una illusion, en
tupensamiento, quetehacehacer cosas, asifunciona el corazon
This is the remix... Yoyo this is the remix (Phone rings)
Hello... Shhh... listen up I gotta few words to tell you. It is 5 in the morning, I'm feelinkinda lonely On top of that I, need you here with me. Did I mention I can't sleep? You're always in my dreams and if your not with me, I won't be feeling right. Today I met your man, just smiled and walked away. To know how soon his girl, just might become my wife and he's no competition, let me give you a reason, you know you don't love him, cuz he is not the one. You know he's kindawack, and that is so so sad To see how such a beauty, is wasting all her time No, I know it ain't love. How you feel is called an obsession, an illusion, that plays with your mind And makes you take action When you're obsessed that's how it goes.
Compare and contrast

blues

Bachata #1

Bachata #2
A plain acoustic guitar may have been the inspiration behind bachata. Now it is not unusual to find a second electric guitar, as well as a bass and bongo drum to fill out the sound. One addition that has made a distinct difference in sound has been the change from traditional maracas to an instrument known as a guiro, a cylindrical sheet of metal with small perforations, which you then play with a small brush. Sounding like a mix between a drummer's high hat and maracas, it adds a unique style to today's bachata.
The actual basics are very easy to understand and pick up; it's the little movements throughout that take the practice; aka, the hips!. The overall pattern is:

· Three steps in one direction, with a side-close-side combination
· Intimate movement
· Three steps back in the other direction, side-close-side
· Intimate movement

Let's dance