

Introduction

In session two we will be looking at how to develop a set of materials from one topic.
 We will be using simple ideas to create interesting activities for the class.

Primary

• For primary we will be looking at a topic alongside books that relate to said topic. We will be adding songs and rhymes. In most cases, traditional rhymes are the best to get little children singing in class. Rhyming helps develop pronunciation, and rhymes lead to stories...

Secondary

• For secondary we want to get them understanding and creating. For this we will use creative writing and active listening skills. We will follow up on *The Think Tank: All about me,* from session 1 and see how we can use it with other topics.

Pronunciation

 Pronunciation is vital and we so love it when students know their oo and ee and their ts and ds. We will look at activities that can help us with this. Stress on the g and h in English versus Spanish, for instance.

Let's Start.

- These are just a handful of activities among a million. I have concentrated on these because they have helped me resolve problems in class. I have used my own learning experience when thinking about these sessions. How did we do this at school?
- My end goal is that at the end of this course, teachers will have at least picked up a
 few ideas and will be able to use them in class.

TOPICS FOR ACTIVITIES

- Introducing topics to develop activities for the class.
 - Autumn
 - Body parts
 - Food
 - Now can you give me ideas ?

It's Story Time!

- How to get the most out of a story.
 - Choose a book.
 - Read through it.
 - Identify topic
 - Identify characters
 - Start your resource pack.

It's Story Time. Early Primary

- A resource pack is easy to develop. All you need to do is use traditional tools.
- For early primary, start with easy picture flashcards of the characters in the book.
- Identify the characters with the flashcards before you read the story.
- Then proceed to read and act out the story.
- Motions are very important.
- Get the students to participate. Repetition of the same sentence is very important.
- Stress the topic of the story to the students.
- Now give them a colour dictation of said characters.
- Let's look at the activity so you can see the whole picture

It's Story Time. Middle Primary

- Introducing nursery rhyme characters to older primary students.
- Each Peach Pear Plum is an excellent book for enhancing pronunciation in the classroom.
- You can stress vowels and consonants.
- Get the students to become familiar with the characters in the book.
- Then read through it.
- Now place the flash cards on the table and read again asking a student to take the card of the character you are reading about and asking the student to find said character in the picture.
- Get the students to take turns in reading and instructing another student to do the same thing.

It's Story time. Higher Primary & Secondary

- Now an activity for higher primary (6P) and secondary.
- Do and Understand is an excellent resource book for the classroom.
- It has many stories that can be used in the classroom for creative writing and speaking.
- Students put the story in order and then tell it.
- If students are not very fluent, you an give them the story already in order and get them just to tell it with a sentence per picture.
- Now let's play.

Action words for primary

- No student likes the Word "verb" :O!!!!
- But use "action words" and every thing changes ©
- For primary the best thing is to find or make flash cards of actions.
- Start with the daily routines action words.
- For students it will be really easy to identify them as they have already been using them.
- Get them to make sentences with the flash cards.
- Interchange the subject. I, you, he , she, etc....
- This way they get to see the change in the third person.
- After simply follow up with exercises of your class activity book or other worksheets you may have.

Pronunciation.

- Getting students to speak properly is very hard.
- More and more new teaching skills are used.
- Phonics are the thing nowadays for Young learners.
- However for teachers these activities can be challenging.
- The best option is to follow a worksheet as the one given out here

Let's play with irregular verbs for Secondary

- Teaching irregular verbs the traditional way is a punishment for any human being.
- Alternative for me has always been with cards.
- Make cards with the infinitive form and the past simple
- Get them to pair them off.
- Get them to make sentences with the past simple
- Once the have mastered the past simple introduce the past participle.
- Now get a student to make a simple sentence with the present. Get a student to turn it into past simple then another to use the past participle.
- Repeat as often as you want in class. Follow up with general exercises.

Creative writing for secondary I.

- Use a title and ask students to brain storm for 5 minutes only
- Get them to write at least 10 words on the board.
- Now give them exactly ten minutes to make up a story.
- Make it more complicated by determining the tense of the story
- Or, make them write it in reported speech if you have already seen this in class.

Creative writing for secondary II.

• This next activity is taken from the British Council web site. Author:

Nik Peachey

- Listening Part:
 - Ask the students to draw the face of a person in the top right-hand corner of the page.
 - Once they've done this ask them to give the person a name.
 - Then on the top left of the page ask them to write five adjectives to describe the person's appearance.
 - Next ask them to write five more adjectives to describe the person's character.
 - After they've done this ask the students to write three things that the person likes doing.
 - Then ask them to write who the person lives with.
 - In this way they build up a character profile for the person they are going to write about.

Creative writing for secondary II.

Writing part:

- Now dictate the following sentence to your students: 'It was a dark and stormy night and'. Stop at this
 point and ask them to write in the name of the person they have drawn and followed by the word
 'was'.
- Then ask the students to complete the sentence from their imagination and add one more sentence.
- Once all the students have added a sentence to their stories, get them to stop and pass the paper to the pair on their right (this means that every pair of students now has a new character).
- The students then read through the information and the beginning of the story and then add one more sentence to it.
- Once they've done this you ask them once more to pass the paper to the next pair on their right.
 Continue to do this with each pair of students adding a sentence to each story, gradually building up each story as the papers are passed around the class.
- Continue with this until you decide that the students are starting to lose interest or have written enough and then tell them to finish the story.

Creative writing for secondary II.

• Follow up:

- Once all the stories are complete there are a number of follow up options you can try.
- Put the stories up around the class and get the students to read them all and decide which is best.
- Give each pair of students a story and get them to try to find and correct errors.
- Get the students to write the stories up on a computer and the ask them to add more description and detail to the stories.
- This activity is fun and creative and has always worked well for me both with adults and younger students.

Dual Dictation.

British Council Website. Author Kate Joyce

- Dual dictation
 - Ask students to get into pairs to write a dialogue. When student A is speaking, student B should write down what they are saying and vice versa. When they have finished the conversation, they should check what each other has written and put the two sides of the conversation together. You could then ask students to perform their dialogues again to the rest of the class, or to swap with other pairs.
 - This activity works best if you give students a theme or role-play, e.g. A conversation between friends about holidays
 - An argument between siblings
 - An interview with a famous person
 - A scene from a film
 - Now let's do it!

The Think Tank II.

- CREATING A PRESENTATION FOR CLASS.
 - Students should choose a topic the really like. It can be a hobby or a favourite sport.
 - Then use the same template for the Think Tank activity.
 - Ask them to expand.
 - Get them to design a poster on the topic with pictures and small text prompts.
 - Now get them to present it to the class.
 - This is used in Trinity GESEs from level 4 onward.

Your suggestions

- Most of you have asked about:
- 1. Resources and websites
- 2. How teaching has changed
- 3. Ongoing training
- 4. How to get the most out of my environment to teach children English

Time Out

• That's all folks!

