

Lesson 16 The lion sleeps tonight

Aim	To give the students an opportunity to exercise their creativity as they portray a song through mime.
Systems and Skills	Vocabulary: (a) body words and phrases (b) words derived from the lyrics of the song. Listening: the students respond to what they hear.
Age	Young students to adults.
Level	Elementary to intermediate.
Timing	30–45 mins.
Material	The lyrics to the song, each verse on a separate card. The words to the song can be found through an internet search for: <i>lyrics the lion sleeps tonight</i> . You will need one particular video of the song. It can be found on the Versatile website: www.versatile.pub/video and on YouTube: http://bit.ly/lion_hippo . For the follow-up, the steps that are used in the warmer are on p.153 for cutting up.

Introduction

In this lesson, the students create dance moves to each verse of the song to illustrate the text. In the warmer, however, they unwittingly learn the moves for the chorus that they will later see in the video that is used in this lesson.

Thanks to Anna Pires and for sharing the core activity.

Warmer

Give the following TPR-style instructions to the students, step by step.

If the students are able to do the step, they understand the words, so go on to the next one. Otherwise, say it and demonstrate it. Each one can be practised as necessary. Practise the whole sequence several times until they are performing it fluidly.

It will be a lovely surprise for them when they see the dog's movements in the video in the main activity. Don't spoil the surprise.

1. Stand up.
2. Throw your hands to the right.
3. Bounce up and down (keep feet on the floor).
4. Put your hands under your chin.
5. Rub your tummy with your right hand.
6. Pat your head with your left hand.
7. Put your left hand on your head.
8. Look at me and point at me three times with your right hand (jabbing the air).
9. Turn around, lean forward and point your backside at me.
10. Pat your buttocks five times.
11. Look left.
12. Stand up straight and jump around 180 degrees.
13. Throw your hands to the right.
14. Bounce up and down.
15. Throw your hands to the left.
16. Face right and put your hands behind your head.
17. Do a pelvic thrust three times.

Now, let's do that again. And again. During the main activity when they see the dog in the video, the students might modify their movements to match those of the dog more closely.

Core activity

- Step 1. Tell students that now they are warmed up, they are going to create a lovely little dance for a song.
- Step 2. Write these words on the board, spread randomly all over: *mighty, quiet, peaceful, fear, village, hush, jungle.*
- Step 3. Play the video and tell the students to point to the words on the board as they hear them.
- Note: *The students probably noticed that the dog copied their movements in the chorus from the warmer.*
- Step 4. They stand and rehearse it now with the dog.
- Step 5. Put the students into three groups.
- Step 6. Give each group one of the verses and some time to devise a mime to depict it. They don't have to mime every single word, but they can follow the example they had of the chorus.
- Step 7. Give the groups time to rehearse.
- Step 8. When time is up, each group demonstrates their verse.
- Step 9. Now play the song again and have the whole class do the chorus each time, and each group perform their verse.

Follow-up reading activity

Give the students the step by step instructions for the chorus on separate slips and ask them to put them in order.