Haiku: shared reading

Book: *A hundred poems*

Time: 5 minutes.

Category: listening skills in English as a foreign language.

Skills: listening and comprehension skills of a haiku poem.

Target group: learners of any age with a basic knowledge of English as a foreign language.

Learning activity: shared reading of a haiku poem.

Learning objectives: learners are able to comprehend the global meaning of a haiku poem in English.

Involvement of all learners in shared reading, letting them interact with the poetry genre.

Steps

1. Choose an easily comprehensible haiku poem, whose topic can be ascribable to daily life experiences. In this way, their encyclopaedic knowledge can help learners to read and understand the haiku poem.

2. Get attention and explain to learners in detail what you are going to do. Establish with them the rules to follow during the shared reading.

3. Read the whole poem slowly, carefully, aloud and with emphasis.

Provide learners with extra-linguistic clues to let them understand the global meaning, such as body language and prosody.

If necessary, read a second time.

4. Check understanding by asking simple questions about the poem. Create a discussion in which everyone is free to answer whenever they want.

Variations

1. If the English proficiency is higher, choose more challenging haiku poems with rhetorical figures, for instance.

2. When checking learners' understanding, display questions that you have prepared beforehand in the classroom or design a worksheet.

Let them answer individually or in groups, as in a quiz, verbally or in writing, depending on their English proficiency.

3. Tell learners to circle the words or sentences they did not understand during the shared reading.

After the reading, discuss with them about their doubts and help them solve the problem.

Follow-up

Right after the shared reading experience, grant learners extra time to read the poem by themselves and silently.

Tips

The shared book methodology can be used for any chapter of any Easy to Read book.