

What is a haiku poem? Listen and read

Book: *A hundred poems*

Time: 10-15 minutes.

Category: listening and reading comprehension skills.

Skills: global and extensive skills in listening and understanding English as a foreign language.

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

Learning activity: presentation about the literary genre of haiku poems.

Learning objectives: igniting curiosity about the book and motivation to know more about haiku poems.

Learners are able to comprehend the global meaning of the presentation about haiku poems.

Development of basic knowledge of literary language and genres in English.

Steps

1. Prepare colourful and attractive slides, which give general ideas about the features of this specific type of poetry before the lesson.

Use simple and plain language; the global meaning is always supported by illustrations and pictures, which allow learners to capture the main content.

2. Tell learners what you are going to do at the beginning of the lesson.

Introduce them to the topic of haiku poems and elicit their previous knowledge by asking questions, verbally or in written form, such as “Have you ever heard of haiku poems?”; “What do you think it is the topic of this book?”.

Create a discussion.

3. Show the slides in classroom with a projector.

Let learners understand the global meaning of the presentation. Use verbal emphasis, gestures and body language.



Variations

1. Give a printed version of the presentation so that everybody can follow while you are speaking.

2. Divide the class into small and heterogeneous groups.

Propose the topic of haiku poems before starting to read the Easy to Read book.

Tell the learners to do research about this specific literary genre and to prepare a presentation to deliver in class.

3. Create a similar activity through the jigsaw learning technique. Divide the class into small and heterogeneous groups.

Tell them that haiku poems is the topic of the lesson and assign to each member of the group a specific subtopic to research.

Once each member has completed research on the subtopic, they discuss with the members of the other groups assigned the same subtopic.

After that, each member comes back to their own group in order to discuss about what they have learnt from the others.

In the end, each group creates and delivers a presentation about haiku poems.

Follow-up

1. Suggest to learners to do follow-up research about different poetry genres other than haiku poems.

Compare them, trying to identify analogies and differences. They can do it individually or in small groups and then present the results in class.

2. Ask learners to do interviews with their families and friends about the same literary genre in order to research how popular this type of poetry is. They can take notes and/or record the interviews.

They present the results in the way they feel more comfortable with: verbally, in written form, slides, videos etc.

Tips

The aesthetic component of learning activities is fundamental to attract learners' attention and stimulate their motivation. Create materials as colourful and interesting as possible.

