

UNEX Developing Written Skills



Title: Painting and words

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Keywords: #writing, #creativity, #painting and words

Duration: 30-45 min

Description

Correct writing requires trying to write various types of texts. Practice makes perfect. In the contemporary world, where short messages, often incorrect, replace well-edited longer forms of text, it is worth motivating students to write different texts. Exercises that stimulate curiosity and imagination are primarily motivating.

Objectives

1. Development of creativity
2. Learning new words
3. Practicing the ability of correct writing of various types of texts

Activity(ies) (stages)

1. A teacher shows a painting to students (it is worth if it was a painting of a famous artist – this is how students learn about works of art present in culture) and gives (writes on a blackboard) 10-15 words to students.
2. Students with a teacher explain every word – they give its meaning or look for it in a dictionary.
3. The students' task is to write a text based on the painting and given words. It can be a story, description, dialog, essay, etc. Students are to use most of given words and somehow refer to

the picture (it can be a place of events, an object owned by the character, it can describe the situation from the picture, etc. – any idea is allowed).

4. Chosen students read their texts loudly.

Tips for trainers

- Choose words that will enrich students' vocabulary and stimulate their creativity. Sample words: **ambivalent, gray-blue-pink, contemplation, mystification, transcendence, existential, eudaimonia, misogynist, interlocutor, imponderabilia, faux pas, megalomania, idolatria, holistic, dilettante, affirmative, frivolous, trivial, relevant, trivial**, etc.
- You can also give unusual word combinations that will stimulate students' imagination. E.g. **blue and yellow zebra, frivolous teacher, grotesque celebration, unbridled thoughts, reticent speaker, philanthropic miser, good-natured villain, plush Eiffel Tower, chocolate-spinach cake**, etc.
- After writing the texts, students can also be asked to exchange them with colleagues and to evaluate each other's texts for creativity and correctness.

List of resources, materials, etc.

- Paintings on various topics
- List of various words
- Projector to display paintings
- Sheets of paper/notebooks where students may write down their texts

Evaluation/Feedback

A teacher answers the questions:



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| • Were students interested in the exercise? | Yes | No |
| • Does the exercise motivate students to develop writing skills? | Yes | No |
| • Is this exercise useful? | Yes | No |