

Professional Development Series 4

Learning English through Storytelling 2010

Report

Date: 16th March, 2010

Summary

A 1.5 hours teachers' professional development workshop on Storytelling was successfully organised on 13th March, 2010. Initial feedback suggests that the teachers found the workshop very useful.

At the end of the workshop teachers returned questionnaires reviewing the workshop. 90% of the teachers found the workshop very useful; while 95% of the teachers felt that the workshop equipped them with half or most of the knowledge and skills required. Furthermore, 89% of the teachers felt that the prepared materials were appropriate for their students. These comments are invaluable to us as we strive to continue improving our programmes.

Objectives

The aim of this series of training workshops is to enable teachers to utilise the learning aspects of storytelling in order to more effectively teach English language in their own lessons. The workshops have the following learning objectives:

- to examine the basics of storytelling and how it can be used in language learning
- to learn to teach stories in interactive and engaging ways for students.
- to analyse how stories can be integrated in different learning activities.
- to explore the world of poetry and how it can make it can make English learning fun.
- to learn how a story can be brought to life through acting and drama.
- to explore techniques that actively involve students and stimulate class participation.
- to demonstrate how to use presented teaching methods and lessons in classrooms.

1. Trainer and Participants

Trainer

Ms Rebecca PATTERSON

Participants

61 English teachers from different primary and secondary schools.

Teachers found the following elements of the workshop most useful...

- The ways to engage students during the storytelling stage.
- Different activities that can be organized based on one story.
- “Learning by doing!” Learning how storytelling can help students become more engaged in understanding the themes.
- Group activities that use one story to focus on different aspects according to the strength of the class.
- Dramatization of characters.
- Retelling and acting out of stories.
- Storytelling skills.
- Integrating 4 English skills into a lesson teaching short stories.

Professional Development Series 4

Learning English through Poems and Songs 2010

Report

Date: 16th March, 2010

Summary

A 1.5 hour teachers’ professional development workshop on Poems and Songs was successfully organised on 13th March, 2010. Initial feedback suggests that the teachers found the workshop very useful.

At the end of the workshop, teachers returned questionnaires reviewing the course. 96% of the teachers found the workshop useful; while 96% of the teachers felt that the workshop equipped them with half or most of the knowledge and resources required. Furthermore, 72% of the teachers felt that at least half of the prepared materials were appropriate for their students. Over 70% of the teachers found the workshop to be mostly or totally useful to them, indicating a strong need for further professional training on songs and poems in the future. Your critical feedback is important to our continuous efforts to improve the workshop. Thank you for your comments.

Objectives

This series of training workshops enables teachers to utilise the language learning aspects of Poems and Songs to more effectively teach English in their lessons. The workshop has the following learning objectives:

- to analyse a variety of poems and how it can be used in language classrooms
- to present new materials and teaching resources to be used in future lesson planning
- to advise on how to better appreciate and analyze poems
- to provide techniques for helping students to learn poetry in engaging ways
- to examine the way students can improve their language skills by learning songs and poems.
- to learn how to make English fun by strengthening learning patterns through poetry

2. Trainer and Participants

Trainer

Mr Hui-Bon-Hoa, Max

Participants

49 English teachers from different primary and secondary schools.

Teachers found the following elements of the workshop most useful...

- The use of different dimensions in teaching poetry.
- Studying how to effectively teach poetry.
- New ideas and fresh materials for teaching English through poetry.
- Learning to enjoy life more through poetry.
- Learning how to inspire love of poems.
- Evaluating all aspects of poetry.
- The presentations and the handouts.
- Examining what students can learn from poems and songs.