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The 4 page 60 minute ESL British English lesson – 30/08/13

Tongue Twisters!

Today let's practise some tongue twisters! See how you get on with trying to say the following daft classic phrases. Try to pronounce them clearly in the Queen's English...

- 1) "How now brown cow."
- 2) "The rain in Spain falls mainly on the plain."
- 3) "In Hertford, Hereford and Hampshire, hurricanes hardly happen."
- 4) "Around the rugged rocks the ragged rascals ran."
- 5) "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper.
Did Peter Piper pick a peck of pickled pepper?
If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper,
Where's the peck of pickled pepper Peter Piper picked?"
- 6) "The sixth sick Sheik's sixth sheep is sick."
- 7) "Red leather, yellow leather, red leather, yellow leather."
- 8) "A proper cup of coffee from a proper copper coffee pot."
- 9) "She sells seashells on the seashore.
The shells she sells are seashells, I'm sure."
- 10) "Three free throws."
- 11) "Red lorry, yellow lorry."
- 12) "If two witches were watching two watches, which witch would watch which watch?"
- 13) "Give papa a cup of proper coffee in a copper coffee cup."

SPEAKING

Think of three things you know about tongue twisters. What do we mean by the phrase 'tongue twister'? Go round the room swapping details with others.

LISTENING – WRITING - DICTATION

The teacher will read some lines of the article slowly to the class.

READING

Students should now read the article aloud, swapping readers every paragraph.

SPEAKING - UNDERSTANDING

1) The article – Students check any unknown vocabulary or phrases with the teacher.

2) The article - Students should look through the article with the teacher.

- 1) What is the article about?
- 2) What do you think about the article?
- 3) Was this a boring or interesting article?
- 4) Was this an easy or difficult article to understand?
- 5) Repeat the article reading it aloud at a much faster pace!

3) Article quiz - Students quiz each other in pairs. Score a point for each correct answer. Score half a point each time you have to look at the article for help. See who can get the highest score!

Student A questions

- 1) Name the colours.
- 2) Name the animals.
- 3) What colour was the coffee pot?
- 4) How many witches were there?
- 5) Which family member would you give a cup of coffee to?

Student B questions

- 1) Name the county towns.
- 2) Name the county and country.
- 3) Name the people.
- 4) Who ran around the rugged rocks?
- 5) Where does the rain fall?

Category: Elocution / Pronunciation / British English
Level: Intermediate / Upper Intermediate

SPEAKING – MORE TONGUE TWISTERS

- 14) "I'm not the pheasant plucker, I'm the pheasant plucker's mate,
And I'm only plucking pheasants 'cause the pheasant plucker's late.
I'm not the pheasant plucker, I'm the pheasant plucker's son,
And I'm only plucking pheasants till the pheasant plucker's come.
- 15) A big bug bit a bold bald bear and the bold bald bear bled blood badly.
- 16) Three Swedish switched witches watch three Swiss Swatch watches switches. Which Swedish switched witch watches which Swiss Swatch watch switch?"
- 17) Whether the weather be fine
Or whether the weather be not
Whether the weather be cold
Or whether the weather be hot
We'll weather the weather
Whatever the weather
Whether we like it or not.
- 18) A rabbit ran around a rock
Around a rock a rabbit ran.

DISCUSSION

Student A questions

- 1) Did the headline make you want to read the article?
- 2) Had you heard of any of the tongue twisters before today's English lesson?
- 3) Which is your favourite saying?
- 4) Which was the hardest to say?
- 5) Which saying was the hardest tongue twister to understand?
- 6) Do you think today's lesson was a good one?
- 7) Are tongue twisters in your language popular?
- 8) Are tongue twisters a good idea when learning English?
- 9) Has this been an interesting lesson?
- 10) Have you learnt anything today?

SPEAKING – ROLEPLAY 1

In groups. One of you is the interviewer. The others are one of the following people. You are in the *BBC World Service radio* studio. Today's interview is about: *Tongue Twisters!*

- 1) A speech theorist
- 2) A teacher of presentation skills
- 3) An English teacher
- 4) Someone learning English

The teacher will choose some groups to roleplay their interview in front of the class.

SPEAKING - ROLEPLAY 2

In pairs. You are in a pub in your town/city. Start a conversation about today's English tongue twisters. *5 mins.*

SPEAKING – YOUR OWN IDEAS

In pairs/groups – Think of three of your own tongue twisters in English. Add another three in your own language. Can you translate them?

The teacher will choose some pairs/groups to see what they have come up with.

SPEAKING - DISCUSSION

Allow 10 minutes – As a class.

Discuss the following...
Tongue Twisters, rhymes OR
Elocution, articulation and pronunciation today

The teacher can moderate the session.

DISCUSSION

Student B questions

- 1) What do you think about what you've read?
- 2) How often do you practise speaking aloud?
- 3) When might you project your voice?
- 4) Have you ever given a stand up speech to a large audience?
- 5) How important is it to speak clearly?
- 6) Do you mumble?
- 7) Does your accent affect others understanding you?
- 8) When you speak English what accent do you use?
- 9) Has this been a difficult lesson in English for you to understand?
- 10) Did you like this discussion?

GAP FILL: READING

Tongue Twisters!

Today let's (1)___ some (2)___ twisters! See how you get on with trying to say the following daft (3)___ phrases. Try to pronounce them clearly in the Queen's English...

- 1) "How now brown (4)___."
- 2) "The rain in Spain falls mainly on the (5)___."
- 3) "In Hertford, Hereford and Hampshire, (6)___ hardly happen."
- 4) "Around the rugged rocks the ragged (7)___ ran."
- 5) "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper.
Did Peter Piper pick a peck of pickled pepper?
If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper,
Where's the peck of pickled (8)___ Peter Piper picked?"

classic / tongue / rascals / plain / cow / practise / pepper / hurricanes

- 6) "The sixth sick Sheik's sixth (1)___ is sick."
- 7) "Red leather, yellow (2)___, red leather, yellow leather."
- 8) "A proper cup of coffee from a (3)___ copper coffee pot."
- 9) "She sells (4)___ on the seashore.
The (5)___ she sells are seashells, I'm sure."
- 10) "Three free throws."
- 11) "Red lorry, yellow lorry."
- 12) "If two witches were watching two watches, which (6)___ would watch which (7)___?"
- 13) "Give papa a cup of proper coffee in a (8)___ coffee cup."

copper / witch / proper / sheep / shells / leather / watch / seashells

GAP FILL: GRAMMAR

Tongue Twisters!

Today let's practise (1)___ tongue twisters! See (2)___ you get on (3)___ trying to say the following daft classic phrases. Try to pronounce (4)___ clearly in the Queen's English...

- 1) "How now brown cow."
- 2) "The rain in Spain falls mainly (5)___ the plain."
- 3) "In Hertford, Hereford and Hampshire, hurricanes hardly happen."
- 4) "Around the rugged rocks (6)___ ragged rascals ran."
- 5) "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper.
Did Peter Piper pick a peck of pickled pepper?
If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper,
(7)___'s the peck (8)___ pickled pepper Peter Piper picked?"

where / them / some / with / the / how / on / of

- 6) "(1)___ sixth sick Sheik's sixth sheep is sick."
- 7) "Red leather, yellow leather, red leather, yellow leather."
- 8) "A proper cup (2)___ coffee from (3)___ proper copper coffee pot."
- 9) "(4)___ sells seashells (5)___ the seashore.
The shells (6)___ sells are seashells, (7)___'m sure."
- 10) "Three free throws."
- 11) "Red lorry, yellow lorry."
- 12) "(8)___ two witches were watching two watches, which witch would watch which watch?"

she / if / she / a / the / on / I / of

GAP FILL: LISTENING

Tongue Twisters!

Today let's practise _____! See how you get on with trying to say the following daft classic phrases. Try to pronounce them clearly in _____

- 1) "How now brown cow."
- 2) "_____ falls mainly on the plain."
- 3) "In Hertford, Hereford and Hampshire, hurricanes hardly happen."
- 4) "Around _____ ragged rascals ran."
- 5) "Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper. Did Peter Piper pick a peck of pickled pepper? If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled pepper, where's the _____ Peter Piper picked?"
- 6) "The sixth sick Sheik's sixth sheep is sick."
- 7) "Red leather, _____, red leather, yellow leather."
- 8) "A proper cup of coffee from a proper copper coffee pot."
- 9) "She sells seashells _____.
The shells she sells are seashells, I'm sure."
- 10) "_____."
- 11) "Red lorry, yellow lorry."
- 12) "If two witches were watching two watches, _____ watch which watch?"
- 13) "Give papa a cup of proper coffee in _____."

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WRITING/SPELLING

WRITING / SPEAKING

1) Speaking aloud - Five things I like and five things I don't like about speaking aloud in an English lesson!

In pairs/groups – Discuss together. 2 mins.

2) Sentence starters - Finish these sentence starters. Correct your mistakes. Compare what other people have written.

- 1) I practise _____
- 2) I like tongue twisters _____
- 3) My favourite _____

3) Homework - Write and send a 200 word email to your teacher about: **Tongue Twisters**. Your email can be read out in class.

GAP FILL READING

- 1) practice
- 2) tongue
- 3) classic
- 4) cow
- 5) plain
- 6) hurricanes
- 7) rascals
- 8) pepper

ANSWERS

- 1) sheep
- 2) leather
- 3) proper
- 4) seashells
- 5) shells
- 6) witch
- 7) watch
- 8) copper

SPELLING

The teacher will ask the class individually to spell the following words that are in the article. Afterwards check your answers.

- 1) twisters
- 2) hurricanes
- 3) pepper
- 4) practice
- 5) phrases
- 6) daft
- 7) rascals
- 8) lorry
- 9) witch
- 10) copper

SPELLING

Use the following ratings:

Pass = 12

Good = 15

Very good = 18

Excellent = 20

- 11) plain
- 12) classic
- 13) pronounce
- 14) tongue
- 15) mainly
- 16) happen
- 17) around
- 18) seashore
- 19) sixth
- 20) Sheik