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?
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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.

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 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?

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?
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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?”

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?”

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)__ proper 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

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

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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 ________________.”

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

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

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