

Creative Writing and Grammar- a(n) (almost) Perfect Couple

Text based presentation lesson

TEACHER'S WORKSHEET

Aims:

- to enable students to write a short story, focusing today on character construction and setting.
- To enable students to use Present Perfect when discussing past experience and achievements, and also revise Present Continuous.

1. Lead in, set the context.

2. Generate interest and orient students towards the text (tell them you have started writing this story. They are going to read it.)

3. Set a gist task, read, check in pairs, feedback (Show students the two pictures and ask them



to read and identify your character)

4. Clarification stage.

- **Pick out, or get students to pick out an example of the new language (a model sentence)** (Rita McKenzie has travelled to Asia and South Africa)
- **Clarify meaning** (It is something that she has done in the past but she's likely to do again in the future. We don't know exactly when in the past)
- **Check meaning** (Ask concept check questions:
Has she done these in the past? Yes
Will she do it again? Maybe
Do we know exactly when she did it? No)
- **Clarify form** Subject + have, has+ past participle
- **Drill pronunciation** Make students aware of the contracted form.
- **Address appropriacy issues** Usage of contracted form when speaking.

5. Controlled practice of the target language.

- **Set task. (Give students pictures of their characters, ask them to put down one word for physical traits** (age, height, size, state of health etc), **psychological traits**

(intelligence, temperament, happiness/unhappiness, attitudes, self-knowledge, unconscious aspects.), **interpersonal/cultural** (family, friends, colleagues, birthplace, education, hobbies, beliefs, values, lifestyle) **and personal history** (major events)

- **Students do task**
 - a) **Individual**- give handouts. Students write sentences about their characters
 - b) **pair work**- discuss with the partner and borrow one interesting/peculiar fact
 - c) **open class feedback**
- 6. Follow up (Freer practice)**
- **Set task** Give each pair a card with the setting. Ask them to listen to the music and imagine their character is in the given setting.
- **Students do task**
 - a) **Individual** They listen and then put down three sentences telling what the students are doing.
 - b) **pair work**- discuss with the partner and write down a dialogue between the two characters, beginning with "Have you ever?"
 - c) **open class feedback** – stick dialogues on the board/walls, along with the pictures. Give prize for the most genuine dialogue.

STUDENT'S WORKSHEET

1. Read and decide which of the two pictures shows Rita McKenzie:

Rita McKenzie has been a librarian all her life. She has travelled to Asia and South Africa and has had seven husbands. She is now living in a small cottage house on the banks of the Danube River, with her two Siamese cats, Foxy and Wolf, and her turtle called Rabbit. She has always dreamt of becoming a rock singer but has never had the chance to do it. She has just won \$2000 at the lottery and is planning to buy a bass guitar.

Read more...

2. Think of your character and put down some ideas:

Physical appearance
Psychological traits
Interpersonal (family, hobbies, lifestyle)
Personal history

3. Now fill in the gaps in order to create true sentences about your character: Think of his/her past experience and achievements.

_____ has never _____

_____ has been to _____

_____ has done _____

_____ has _____

_____ has _____

4. Discuss your character with a colleague and put down one feature that you are going to borrow from his/her character.

5. Put down three things your character is doing in the given setting.

6. With your colleague write a short dialogue between your characters starting with the following words:

Have you ever...

