Lesson Plan #1 - ESL

Title: What’s the Story?

Objectives: In this lesson, using the universal language of music, students will be introduced to basic English words and phrases and will
1. gain practice in pronouncing basic words.
2. demonstrate understanding of meanings associated with those words.
3. recognize the object associated with the words.
4. respond to a question with a complete sentence.

Session Time: 50-60 minutes

Equipment: CD player or cassette tape player; CD or tape with Elvis Presley’s “Teddy Bear” song; one stuffed teddy bear

Materials: Pictures (from a magazine, record album, etc.) of:
- GUITAR
- BLUE SUEDE SHOES
- CADILLAC
- LAS VEGAS

Methods: Guided discussion, role-playing, interactive participation

Procedure
Music is universal, and Elvis Presley is a universally known figure. Using the rhythm and rhyme in this song, students can utilize their background knowledge and learn some simple English words at the same time.

Activity

Part I:
- Show picture of Elvis.
- Point to picture. Ask “Who is this?”
- Students may respond, or they may not. In any case, point again to the picture and say, “This is Elvis.”
- Ask again, “Who is this?”
- Students should respond, “This is Elvis.”

Part II:
One at a time, show pictures of objects and places associated with Elvis.
Examples: GUITAR, BLUE SUEDE SHOES, CADILLAC, LAS VEGAS
- Tell students, “This is a guitar.” Students repeat, “This is a guitar.”
- Tell students, “These are blue suede shoes.” Students repeat, “These are blue suede shoes.”
- Tell students, “This is a Cadillac.” Students repeat, “This is a Cadillac”
- Tell students, “This is Las Vegas.” Students repeat, “This is Las Vegas.”
Then, repeat the exercise, showing the pictures in the same order and asking the students to say what it is.

Then, repeat the exercise, but change the order of the pictures. Ask students to say what the picture is: “This is…….”

Part III.
PLAY part of the song, “Teddy Bear,” by ELVIS (TAPE PLAYER, CD)

Just let me be
Your teddy bear
Put a chain around my neck
And lead me anywhere.
I just want to be
Your teddy bear.

Stop the song.
Play the song again.
Show students a teddy bear. Say, “This is a teddy bear.”
Ask students, “What is this?”
Students respond, “This is a teddy bear.”
Play the song again. Ask students to sing along.
Play the song again. Ask students to sing along again.

Part IV:

- Write some of the very basic words in the song on the board.

I ME MY TEDDY BEAR

- Read the words to the students.
- Point to yourself for I, me, my.
- Ask students to say the same words and point to themselves.
- Point to the words on the board. As a group, ask students to pronounce the words.
- When they read, “Teddy Bear,” point to the teddy bear.

PART V:

- Show students the teddy bear. Say, “This is a teddy bear.”
- Point to teddy bear. Ask students, “What is this?”
- Students should respond, “This is a teddy bear.”
- Play the song again and ask the students to sing along.

Conclusion: It is important that you ask the questions, and that the students respond, in a consistent manner as above noted. Asking each time, “What is this?” and having students respond each time with “This is…..” provides opportunities for students to understand sentence construction.

Note: This lesson is included in the workshop, ESL New Teacher Orientation, in the SIPDC Catalog of Professional Development Opportunities.