

METHODS OF TEACHING RIDDLES IN THE CLASSROOM AND IN EXTRACURRICULAR READING IN PRIMARY SCHOOL.

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Annotation: The article is devoted reading lessons in primary school, use of pedagogical technologies in the process, new interactive methods the positive importance of use is highlighted. Also from interactive methods samples are recommended and illuminated.

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Kids love riddles. They often see them as a very intellectual challenge that can be solved with some thinking outside of the square. Below are 50 riddles that your kids will love to try and solve and you can use them as icebreakers if need be too. Riddles are a great way to add some laughter and humor to your school day, but riddles can serve an ever bigger purpose. When students hear riddles, they will begin to make associations, link what they are learning in the classroom, and come to conclusions about things they already know. For example, a riddle about the moon might connect something your students are learning about in science class. Even if your riddles aren't educational, the simple experience of laughter will increase joy in the classroom, and joyful students are more likely to enjoy school and become deeply engaged in their learning. A riddle a day will keep your classroom joyful and ready to learn new things! Enjoy watching your students figure out these riddles and enjoy their laughter when they do.

Here are some riddles for pupils to help get you started!

1. What has a face, but can't smile. **Answer:** A clock.
2. There is only one word spelled wrong in the dictionary. What is it? **Answer:** W-R-O-N-G.
3. I can fill up a room, but take no space. What am I? **Answer:** Light.
4. What is a bunny's favorite kind of music? **Answer:** Hip hop music.
5. What kind of room has no doors or windows? **Answer:** A mushroom.
6. What can you catch, but not throw? **Answer:** A cold.
7. What begins with T, finishes with T, and has T in it? **Answer:** A teapot.
8. What goes up, but never comes back down? **Answer:** Your age.
9. What is brown, has a head, and tails, but no legs? **Answer:** A penny.
10. What room do ghosts avoid? **Answer:** The living room.

Why Use Riddles on Your pupils?

Riddles can be used to achieve a number of objectives in the ESL classroom. [You can use them as warmers and icebreakers](#), as part of a larger lesson on a specific topic or as your closing activity.

Riddles encourage students to **think critically and work as a team**, where they must practice their English together in order to communicate their ideas, theories and solutions.

You can pick and choose riddles to focus on different aspects of English. For example, some riddles may use the [vocabulary you wish to review](#) with your students. You can also use riddles to introduce new vocabulary in a fun and engaging way.

Riddles can also be useful for pronunciation, spelling, rhyming or [even teaching English idioms](#). Below are some riddles that are especially relevant for ESL students.

1. Race to Solve the Riddle

Before class, prepare a list of riddles. Depending on the level of your class, decide whether you want to use riddles using simple or advanced English. You can even start with simple riddles, then add more challenging ones later in the activity if you really want to get your students thinking.

Begin the activity by dividing the class into small groups, then give each group a worksheet with the riddles you selected. The groups must race against each other to answer all of the riddles correctly.

When a group thinks they've successfully answered all the riddles, have them raise their hand so you can check their work. The first group to answer all riddles correctly wins the exercise.

2. Choose the Best Answer

Again, prepare a list of riddles before class.

Like the previous exercise, you'll begin this activity by dividing the class into small groups. Hand out your riddle sheets to each group, instructing them to start once every group has received a worksheet.

When finished, have each group write their answers to the riddles on the board. Instead of determining the right and wrong answers like you did in the previous activity, let your students vote on what answers they think are the best or most likely to be right. Then, have each group explain *why* they chose that answer.

Groups with the most votes win the game.

3. Write Your Own Riddles

Creative students will love this activity!

For this exercise, learners must write their own riddles and then try to stump their classmates. Depending on your class' proficiency level, you can have students work individually or in small groups to create two or three riddles. Generally speaking, beginners and intermediate students tend to work best in pairs or small groups. Once they've finished writing their riddles, give each student (or group) a chance to read their riddles to the class. The rest of the class is expected to solve the riddle.

If you *really* want to give your students the opportunity to explore their creativity while learning English, pair your riddle activities with **FluentU**.

FluentU takes authentic videos—like music videos, movie trailers, news and inspiring talks—and turns them into personalized language lessons.

Brain-teasing Riddles for ESL Students That Are Guaranteed to Be a Hit

Easy riddles

Here are some riddles geared towards beginners. These riddles focus on spelling, pronunciation, specific groups of vocabulary, such as body parts, and how some English words have different meanings.

1. Riddle: *How many letters are in the alphabet?*

Answer: 11 (t-h-e a-l-p-h-a-b-e-t).

This riddle is ideal for getting students to think about spelling and to review the alphabet.

2. Riddle: *What has a face and two hands but no arms or legs?*

Answer: A clock.

This riddle focuses in on specific vocabulary related to clocks. It can also encourage a discussion about the many uses or **double meanings of English words**. For example, "face" on a person and the "face" of a clock and "hands" of a person and the "hands" of a clock.

3. Riddle: *There's a house. One enters it blind and comes out seeing. What is it?*

Answer: A school.

This riddle explores a rather common English idiom the relationship between "seeing" and being "enlightened" or "knowledgeable."

Medium and slightly hard riddles

For your more intermediate students, try some of the following riddles. These riddles will test your ESL students' knowledge and understanding of different parts of speech, such as adverbs, and homonyms.

Difficult riddles

These riddles should be saved for your advanced students. The language skills needed to successfully solve them is more complex than the previous riddles mentioned. Students can use these riddles to practice and review grammar rules, as well as exercising their knowledge of vocabulary.

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