Storytelling in an EFL classroom

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&

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Let us tell you a story!

“In thousands of languages, in the most diverse climes, from century to century...it is the story of the human condition that is being spun and that men never weary of telling to one another.” (I. Andrić)
Why storytelling?
Is it possible? YES!
Is it necessary? DEFINITELY YES!
When? From the very beginning till they fly away!
How?

- Realia
- Sounds
- Video clips
- Pictures/Images
- Newspapers articles
- Story cubes
- Posters, etc
What for?

- Vocabulary & Grammar
  1. Warmers
  2. Breakers
  3. Fillers
    - Interactive storytelling
    - Digital storytelling
    - TPR storytelling
Some practical ideas...

- Stories from
"Every cloud has a silver lining."
I'm bluffing...
or am I?
WHAT IS AN INTERACTIVE STORYTELLING?

Story + Interaction

A story follows an interesting protagonist seeking a clear goal by addressing an ever-escalating set of difficulties."

Andrew Glassner

Stories have a complex structure, are usually about people rather than things and involve conflict.

Chris Crawford
The Interactive Storytelling Spectrum

Fully Traditional Stories

Interactive Traditional Stories

Multiple-Ending Stories

Branching Path Stories

Open-Ended Stories

Fully Player-Driven Stories

Josiah Lebowitz and Chris Klug
Project-based Learning

Technology, Literacy & Skills

Self-expression

Accessible, immediate & Mobile

Reflection, Engagement
Digital storytelling ideas

“Movie trailer” for a book, article, historical period, an event

Dramatising pieces of literature

Parodies of famous television and movie scenes

Personal narrative

Story told from a perspective of an object

Virtual tour

Documentaries

Story constructed from still images

Reenactment - Historical interview
TOTAL PHYSICAL RESPONSE

LISTEN
WATCH
IMITATE
LEARN
TPR STORYTELLING

- Great fun
- Easy
- Simple
- Inclusive
- Active
- Perfect for building vocabulary
- Engaging
The manner of telling and the form of the story vary according to periods and circumstances, but the taste for telling and retelling a story remains the same: the narrative flows endlessly and never runs dry. (I. Andrić) – USE IT!
ALONE WE CAN DO SO LITTLE
TOGETHER WE CAN DO SO MUCH!

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