

Conversation-based Lesson Plan

5 Pre-intermediate-level students

Storytelling of the film, "Titanic", according to Freytag's Pyramid

The objective of this lesson is to tell the story of the film, "Titanic" to students and have them understand how a story is structured. During the lesson, the students are encouraged to speak, adding in things from the story that they remember from watching the film themselves.

The language focus is: present simple, present continuous and past simple usage

Exposition: setting the scene, introducing characters, setting and background

The Titanic is about to set off from Southampton with Rose and Jack on-board.

Initial Incident: something happens to get the story moving, usually, there is something shown which helps the characters in the story. this is the "complication"

Jack stops Rose from jumping from the ship, because she is sad about her life.

Rising Action: the story begins to build up from here

Rose's mother, her fiance Cal and Cal's manservant all try to keep Jack from becoming closer to Rose because they are from different backgrounds.

Climax: the point in the story where the most important and exciting action happens, the bridge between the *rising action* and the *falling action*

The Titanic hits an iceberg, splits and sinks into the ocean

Falling Action: events from the *climax* lead to the story coming to a close

Jack, Rose and the other passengers wait for lifeboats to escape the ship

Résolution: the characters solve the main problem in the story

Jack and Rose are in the freezing ocean water where Jack makes sure that Rose is on a floating piece of wood to stay alive

Dénouement: at this point, the characters learn something which they didn't know earlier in the story

Rose, as an old lady thinking about Jack, drops the Coeur de Mer into the ocean and dies

At this point, students are to consider how storylines are structured/composed and should be better able to express ideas through coaching

FREYTAG'S PYRAMID

Climax:
The most suspenseful part of the plot. The turning point for the protagonist's character.

Rising Action:
Three major events that add suspense or tension to the plot (complications or frustrations) that lead to the climax.

Falling Action:
Three events (or less) that unravel the conflict between the protagonist and antagonist that lead to the resolution.

Resolution:
The conflict is resolved and we discover whether the protagonist achieves their goal or not.

Dénouement:
The "tying up of loose ends".

Exposition:
Background information of the plot that includes characters and setting.

Initial Incident:
The very first conflict that occurs in the plot.

