

A Christmas Carol

Lesson plan by Branka Dečković



A Christmas Carol

By Charles Dickens

Age: Teenagers

Time: 90 min

Topic: A Christmas Carol, story

Language: Christmas vocabulary; new vocabulary from the story

Materials: video, photocopied material

Lesson plan

Step 1

For a warm up, we do a crossword puzzle. The students are divided into two groups, one group is doing down, the other across, interchangeably. They have 10 sec to find the answer, if they don't know, the other group will try. They get points.

Christmas Collocation Crossword* (all handouts are packed together in a different pdf document)

They write some of the vocabulary in their notebooks. (10 min)

Step 2

Tell your students to close their eyes and try to remember the time when they were little kids; if they liked Christmas, who they decorated the Christmas tree with, any funny moments, anecdotes, etc. Then you say they are going to write down the answers to a couple of questions. Here they are:

- your favorite toy when you were a kid
- your favorite book, movie or music group
- your favorite candy
- three adjectives to describe yourself + write boy/girl
- one funny thing you did when you were little
- your favorite food and drink
- your nickname

After that, they are going to get these handouts, A Letter to Santa, and they are going to write their answers in the blank spaces, in the same order they have written it above. What they get is their own funny letter to Santa.

Dear Santa*

(12-15 min)

Step 3

Write **A Christmas Carol** on the BB and ask students if they know what it is.

A short introduction about Charles Dickens and A Christmas Carol



(7 February 1812 – 9 June 1870)

Oliver Twist Great Expectations David Copperfield

Tell students that you are going to read them a short summary of A Christmas Carol, but before that you are going to give them some words and chunks of sentences that they will have to put into the right places as you read the summary.

Here is the list of the words:

miserly old man*

When you have given the papers with the words and expressions on them, you start reading the story (before that, as you give each piece of paper, explain all the unknown vocabulary, and students write that in their notebooks).

A mean-spirited (text)*

(20 min)

Step 4

Ask the students if they would like to read the book, or watch the movie (there are many versions of the movie).

You have prepared some clips from the 2009 animated movie, with Jim Carrey, and you're going to play these scenes. Before every scene, tell what the scene is going to be and ask comprehension questions (they should know the answers if they listened carefully to the summary you'd read to them).

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGjFoM94wBw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NFf4OENZpml>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8LyVDC3vRA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m1uOstuBef4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PKLMWJRu4jI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OkAtHnimFHY>

(20 min)

Download handouts: <https://goo.gl/CC1YF1>