

BBC LEARNING AND BBC RADIO 2 PRESENTS

500 Words – Live Lesson

Date: Monday, 16th January 2017

Time: 11:00am

Duration: 50 minutes (approx.)

Location: bbc.co.uk/livelessons

(Note: if you can't watch the webcast live, you will be able to watch the recording on the Live Lessons website)

Curriculum links

The lesson is available for anyone to view and our resources are tailored to different levels, but some of the higher-level content would be more appropriate for ages 7 and up.

Key Stage 1/ 1st Level – English

As part of the lesson, students will be encouraged to:

- Write their own stories and narratives
- Write for different purposes
- Write down, plan and consider their ideas

Key Stage 2/1st and 2nd Level – English

As part of the lesson, students will be encouraged to:

- Think about the audience and purpose of their writing
- Understand, enjoy and create stories
- Create and compare settings, characters, themes and plot
- Use language, dialogue and structure in their writing to engage and influence their readers
- Discuss and plan their ideas for writing before beginning

Key Stage 3/3rd Level – English

As part of the lesson, students will be encouraged to:

- Consider the purpose and audience of their writing and how that affects their choices as a writer
- Plan, draft and edit their stories
- Extend their knowledge of different literary devices and techniques to enhance their writing

Setup

How much space and equipment is needed?

The lesson can be screened in a classroom with a large screen linked to a reliable broadband connection. Good audio equipment is not essential but will make the event more enjoyable.

As we'll be asking students to get involved in creative activities throughout the lesson, it would be beneficial if students had the accompanying worksheets to hand to guide them through the activities, as well as stationery like pens and pencils.

How many students can participate?

It's completely up to you how many students you have participating in the session. We want to get as many students as possible engaged in this Live Lesson. Space might be a consideration if you have a very large group.

How to prepare for the lesson

Setting

The first segment of the Live Lesson challenges pupils to create their own original settings. Students will be invited to choose one of three everyday settings – a **forest**, a **train** and a **home** – and try and think of ways to make the setting original.

Guided activity sheets for this are available here on our website, titled **Activity 1: Settings**. Pupils under the age of 7 might find the activity sheet **Activity 1: Settings – For ages 5 to 7** easier to get to grips with.

During the Live Lesson, pupils will be given just 30 seconds to carry out this activity, so it may benefit them to go through the activity with them before the lesson itself.

Email your pupils' ideas to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or use the hashtag **#bbclivelessons** before and during the Live Lesson, and they could be featured on the live programme.

Character

In the second segment of the Live Lesson, we'll be looking more closely at creating a character around a line of dialogue. Students will be challenged to fill in a 'character chart' to start building up a character for a story.

Guided activity sheets for this are available here on our website, titled **Activity 2: Character**. Pupils under the age of 7 might benefit from using the activity sheet **Activity 2: Character – For ages 5 to 7**.

During the Live Lesson, pupils will be given just 60 seconds to carry out this activity, so it may benefit them to introduce the activity prior to the lesson. The line of dialogue that pupils will be building a character on will be revealed live on air on the day.

Email your students' character examples to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or use the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**, and they could be featured on the Live Lesson.

Plot

This final section of the Live Lesson examines plot. We'll be exploring different 'What if' questions that pupils can ask themselves to help develop their plot.

Based on these techniques, students will be asked to come up with a twist on the classic Jack and the Beanstalk fairy tale.

Guided activity sheets for this are available here on our website, titled **Activity 3: Plot**. Pupils under the age of 7 might benefit from using the activity sheet **Activity 3: Plot – For ages 5 to 7**.

The questions are presented in the form of a wheel, as they will be during the Live Lesson. For extra interaction, cut out these wheels and allow your pupils to spin them, just as we do in the lesson, to select the question they want to use to develop their stories.

During the Live Lesson, pupils will be given just 60 seconds to carry out this activity, so it may benefit them to go through the activity prior to the lesson.

Email your students' versions of Jack and the Beanstalk to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or use the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**, and they could be featured on the Live Lesson.

Contact us

You can email any questions or comments before and during the Live Lesson to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk, or by using the hashtag **#bbclivelessons**. We'll aim to answer as many of your questions as possible.

We'd also love to see examples of your students' work. If your classes have created any work or carried out any activities using the resources on our website, please do send it in to live.lessons@bbc.co.uk, and they could be showcased on the programme and on our website.

If you let us know if your school is planning to tune in on the day, your school name could also be featured on the programme.

Thank you for your interest in our 500 Words – Live Lesson, and we hope you'll join us on the 16th of January.