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| ☐ Listening ☐ Speaking ☐ **Reading** ☐ Grammar ☐ Writing |
| **Topic: The sense of humor wins.** |

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| Instructor:  Sunny | Level:  **Intermediate** | Students:  **12** | Length:  **30 Minutes** |

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| Materials:  13 small pieces of paper of 7 ‘ short funny stories’ (6 stories for pairs, 1 story for single)  Handout of the text ( text story of ‘The tale of two pebbles’ in separated 3 pieces with questions)  Flash cards/ charts for vocabulary, antonyms (mis-fortune, dis-honesty, im-possible) and derivatives ( horror-horrify, propose-proposal, advantage-advantageous, humor-humorous, immediate- immediately, extreme-extremely)  (A picture of the scene of the court of Shylock and Portia)  Whiteboard & markers |
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| Aims:  -To be challenged to read the formal form of language through the short funny stories, ‘The Tale of Two pebbles’  - To develop skimming skill by answering the guiding questions in the sheet of Text 1  - To develop scanning skill by answering the guiding question in the sheet of Text 2  - To think of the hidden meaning/ key point of the funny stories or comedies so Ss not only feel fun but also learn some important lessons  - To apply the learning points to their real situations  - To have a confidence of reading by reading with dialogue style in pair  - To learn vocabulary by reading the flashcards, and finding adjectives from ‘The Tale of Two pebbles’  - To practice speaking by discussion with pair or in front of whole group |
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| Language Skills:  Reading: the short funny stories in pair, and ‘The tale of two pebbles’ individually. Charts/ flash cards  Speaking: Partner discussion to answer the guiding questions or group discussion, speaking in the role play style reading  Writing: answering to the question  Listening: Ts’ instruction, others’ reading in role play style reading, partner/group discussion |

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| Language Systems:  -Lexis: advantage, clumsy, forgo, providence, strew(strewed-strewed/strewn)  -Phonology: practice new vocabulary  -Grammar: use of second condition answering to the question ‘What would you have done if you were the girl?, Antonyms, Derivatives from the text  -function: find out the clue which is the speaker’s main idea or the key to solve the problem |

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| Assumptions:  - Ss like funny stories .  - Ss are used to work individually, in pair or as a whole group.  - Ss might not be familiar how to skim the story or scan so they need to be directed.  - Ss might not like to think thoroughly what they already have read. They might be satisfied with reading books superficially. |
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| Anticipated Errors and Solutions:  - If it takes longer time to answer the sheet or to follow Ts’ instructions.  ---🡪Let them write the main point in the class and complete the sentences at home.  If time is short,  ----🡪 cut off post activities like story about ‘the merchant of Venice’    If extra time remains,  ----🡪 read the word cards/ charts together.  References:  <http://www.rd.com/jokes/funny-stories/>  <http://academictips.org/blogs/funny-short-stories/>  https://merchant-of-venice.wikispaces.com/Act+IV,+Scene+1+(2nd+half,+lines+233+-+455) | |
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| **Lead-In** | | | |
| Materials:  Written topic on the board ‘The sense of humor wins’ | | | |
| Time | Set Up | Student Activity | Teacher Talk |
| 2 min | Whole class | Response to the teacher | Greeting  Eliciting:  I would like to start this lesson with guessing a word. The meaning of the word is ‘funny or amusing’. People like a person  Who has the sense of it. What is this?  Why?  Put a flash card ‘The sense of humor wins’ on the board.  I brought some short funny stories. |

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| **Pre-Activity** | | | |
| Materials:  13 small pieces of paper of 7 ‘the short funny stories’ (6 stories for pairs, 1 story for single) | | | |
| Time | Set Up | Student Activity | Teacher Talk |
| 1 min  2 min  5 min | In pairs  Whole group | Reading  Discussing for the taking the role in pairs.  Presenting the story in dialog in public  Sharing the feedback | Distributing of the ‘short funny stories’.  Instruction:    We have 7 short stories. 6 stories for pairs and 1 story of a single)  A pair has the same story and the story has dialogues in it. You can decide the role. A person needs to be a narrator with playing a role at the same time. I will give you, 1 minute to be ready to present your story as a role play.  CCQ  1) Are you working alone?  2) What should you do?  What are the common things in the stories? (humor)  Have you found some other things? |

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| **Main Activity** | | | |
| Materials: Text (text story of ‘The tale of two pebbles’ in separated in 2 pieces with questions. The second page is folded. | | | |
|  | Set Up | Student Activity | Teacher Talk |
| 2 min  5 min  3 min  2 min  5 min | Individually  In Pairs  Whole group | Reading and answering  Discussion in pairs  Sharing  Reading the vocabulary  Reading the antonyms and derivatives.  Reading and answering  Discussion in pairs | T: When you are in struggle how to manage it? It’s time to have the sense of humor.  Distribution: Text story of which the second page is folded.  Instruction:  I brought a story which has been separated into 2 parts. The 2nd page is folded. Do not unfold, please until I’ll tell you to open. Read the first page and answer the questions. You can discuss with partner. You have 4 minutes.  You can see the board for the unknown words for the 1 page.  Share with partner and complete the answer at home.  CCQ  -How much time do you have?  - What should you do?  - Is there any question? then guess it. This is time for skimming reading.  Can you share about the question ‘ What would you have done if you were the girl?  Putting the flashcards for the words for students reading for the scanning reading  Putting the charters of the antonyms and derivatives and Explaining them shortly    T: Please unfold p 2.  Instruction: Read and solving the problems  CCQ  Are you working alone?  How much time do you have?  How can we describe her management in the diadvantageous situation to an extremely advantageous one? |

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| **Post Activity** | | | |
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| Time | Set Up | Student Activity | Teacher Talk |
| 3 min |  | Response to the teacher’s questions.  Thinking thoroughly how can cope with the hardships with the sense of humor. | (Can you think a comedy by Shakespeare about a Jew moneylender, named Shylock?  Can you think of Portia’s humor when Shylock try to cut Antonios’ flesh?  What was that? Only one pound of flesh with no Blood.)  What was the farmer’s daughter’s humor?  Can we have that kind of the sense of humor?  Well done. Have a good afternoon.  See you tomorrow. |

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| **SOS Activity** | | | |
| Vocabulary on the flashcards | | | |
| Time | Set Up | Student Activity | Teacher Talk |
|  |  | Read together the words. | Instruction:  Let’s read together the vocabulary on the board. |

# No. 1

# The Tale Of Two Pebbles

# Many years ago in a small Indian village, a farmer had the misfortune of owing a large sum of money to a village moneylender. The moneylender, who was old and ugly, fancied the farmer’s beautiful daughter. So he proposed a bargain. He said he would forgo the farmer’s debt if he could marry his daughter.

Both the farmer and his daughter were horrified by the proposal. So the cunning money-lender suggested that they let providence decide the matter. He told them that he would put a black pebble and a white pebble into an empty money bag. Then the girl would have to pick one pebble from the bag.

If she picked the black pebble, she would become his wife and her father’s debt would be forgiven. If she picked the white pebble she need not marry him and her father’s debt would still be forgiven. If she refused to pick a pebble, her father would be thrown into jail.

They were standing on a pebble strewn path in the farmer’s field. As they talked, the moneylender bent over to pick up two pebbles. As he picked them up, the sharp-eyed girl noticed that he had picked up two black pebbles and put them into the bag. He then asked the girl to pick a pebble from the bag.

Now, imagine that you were standing in the field. What would you have done if you were the girl? If you had to advise her, what would you have told her? Take a moment to ponder this. What would you recommend that the girl do?

1. Fill the brackets: white or black

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|  | Picking the ( ) pebble | Picking the ( )  Pebble | Refusing to pick a pebble |
| Good | Debt forgiven | Debt forgiven |  |
| Bad |  | Marriage to the man | Father thrown into jail |

2. What was the best choice for the girl to do? Choose the number. ( 1 2 3 )

3. What would you have done if you were the girl?

If I were the girl, I would have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

No. 2

The girl put her hand into the moneybag and drew out a pebble. Without looking at it, she fumbled and let it fall onto the pebble-strewn path where it immediately became lost among all the other pebbles.

Oh, how clumsy of me!” she said. “But never mind, if you look into the bag for the one that is left, you will be able to tell which pebble I picked.”

The moneylender dared not admit his dishonesty. The girl changed what seemed an impossible situation into an extremely advantageous one.

By Edward de Bono : A Maltese who is very intelligent professor and respected in Malt

1. Why were the farmer and his daughter horrified?

- They had a large sum of debt.( )

- They did not like for her to marry to him. ( )

2. How was the probability for the girl to get a white pebble? How was the probability for the man to get married to her?

3. What are the describing words for the moneylender in the text?

4. Did the moneylender allow the providence to decide the matter? ( Yes No )

5. Why did she watch for him with the sharp eyes? Choose one.

1) She hated him and was angry at him. ( )

2) She had already known his cunning character so she watched for him.( )

6. If she pointed out his trick right away, what would have happened?

7. How did she solve the problem? Put v in the bracket if you agree with the statement.(as many as you like)

1) She had an amazing solving ability with a sense of humor. ( )

2) She looked for a hidden solution from the problem itself. ( )

3) She did not give up or excuse in the very difficult situation but she thought in a different and creative way.

8. What was the result? ( her father’s debt, marriage to the ugly and old man)

### Short Funny Stories : Pairs will do role play.

### 1)

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### *The mother tried to use this occasion to teach her child: “It is because of you, dear.”*

A curious child asked his mother: “Mommy, why are some of your hairs turning grey?”

“It is because of you, dear. Every bad action of yours will turn one of my hairs grey!”

The child replied innocently: “Now I know why grandmother has only grey hairs on her head.”

2)

A Professor was traveling by boat. On his way he asked the sailor:

“Do you know Biology, Ecology, Zoology, Geography, physiology?

The sailor said no to all his questions.

Professor: What the hell do you know on earth. You will die of illiteracy.

After a while the boat started sinking. The Sailor asked the Professor, do you know swiminology & escapology from sharkology?

The professor said no.

Sailor: “Well, sharkology & crocodilogy will eat your assology, headology & you will dieology because of your mouthology.

3)

Mrs. Peterson went to the doctor: “I’m terribly worried about my boy. He thinks he’s a chicken.”  
The doctor asked, “And how long has this been going on?”  
“Almost a year,” Mrs. Peterson replied.  
“Well for goodness sakes! Why didn’t you bring him to see me sooner?”  
“Because we needed the eggs!”

4)

A Chinese man rings his boss, “Me no work I sick.”  
Boss says, “When I’m sick, I make love with my wife. Try that.”  
Two hours later the Chinese man rings back, “Me better, you got nice house.”

5)

A college student is deeply in love with his classmate but he doesn’t know what to do to get the girl’s attention.

One day, he came to ask the girl. “ Can you help me with my assignment?’ The girl agreed. Happily, he came to sit next to the girl the next day and took out a book pretending to read.

After a little while, the girl asked: “You must be a genius. How can you read a book upside down?”

6)

A three-year old walks over to a pregnant lady while waiting with his mother in a doctor’s surgery

“Why is your stomach so big?” – he asks.  
“I´m having a baby.” – she replies.  
“Is the baby in your stomach?” – he asks, with his big eyes.  
“Yes, it is.” – she says.

“Is it a good baby?” – he asks, with a puzzled look.  
“Oh, yes. A really good baby.” – the lady replies.

Shocked and surprised, he asks: “Then why did you eat him?”

7) ( *A single student who does not have a partner will read.)*

It’s my wife’s birthday tomorrow. Last week I asked her “What do you want as a present?.

‘Oh, I don’t know,’ she said. ‘Just give me something with diamonds.’

That’s why I’m giving her a pack of playing cards.

8) (Teacher might do for demonstration.)

\* Knock-knock Who’s there? Opportunity. Don’t be silly-  
 opportunity doesn’t knock twice!

SHYLOCK: Most rightful judge!  
  
PORTIA: And you must cut this flesh from off his breast.   
The law allows it and the court awards it.  
  
SHYLOCK: Most learned judge! A sentence! Come, prepare.  
  
PORTIA: Tarry a little; there is something else.



Portia rocks! Dressed as a male judge, she informs

Shylock of his mistake in the bond.

PORTIA: The words expressly are 'a pound of flesh.'   
Take then thy bond, take thou thy pound of flesh;   
But, in the cutting it, if thou dost shed One drop of Christian blood, thy lands and goods Are, by the laws of Venice, confiscate  
Unto the state of Venice.

SHYLOCK: Is that the law?  
  
PORTIA: Thyself shalt see the [act](https://merchant-of-venice.wikispaces.com/Footnotes+a4s1pt2#act);

For, as thou urgest justice, be assur'd  
Thou shalt have justice, more than thou desir'st.   
  
SHYLOCK: I take this offer then: pay the bond thrice, And let the Christian go.