The Doggerel Poem

An Instructional Unit of Material,
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Instructional Unit of Material
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Poetry The Doggerel Poem
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Introduction

The target genre is poetry. This material will focus on the Doggerel poem. The students are of ages twenty to eighty five, level 3 and level four English language learners. There are nine native English speakers, four Spanish native speakers, two Japanese native speakers, and two Portuguese native speakers. These students have lived more than four years in the United States and are still learning English.
Doggerel Poem: Building the Context: A

Activity 1

Introduction: Poetry can be used to for several purposes in speech, or written language.

Instructions: Read and complete the following questions.

1. List five different types of texts that use a poetry format.

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

2. We will be learning about the doggerel poem. List two or three different types of poetry you have used or heard of before. In one or two sentences explain what was special about those types of poetry.

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

3. In one or two sentences write what you know about poetry.

_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________
Activity 2: Watch Video Samples

Instructions:
1. After watching one minute of the Kings Speech, and thirty seconds of Shakespeare’s Fear no More, read the following love letter.
2. Answer the prompt A.

a. In three or more sentences explain what you think about the three examples of text and why. Is one more poetic than the other? Are the samples humorous, sad or serious?
Doggerel Poem, Modeling and Deconstructing the Text: Song

Activity 1

Instructions:

a. Listen to the song at the beginning of class.

b. List two pairs of words from the song that rhyme that you heard:


c. 


d. Next, read the following song lyrics, which uses a doggerel poem to format the song and answer questions on Doggerel Poem: Text Deconstruction & Vocab 1.1

"Return To Sender"

I gave a letter to the postman,
he put it his sack.
Bright in early next morning,
he brought my letter back.

She wrote upon it:
Return to sender, address unknown.
No such number, no such zone.
We had a quarrel, a lover's spat
I write I'm sorry but my letter keeps coming back.

So then I dropped it in the mailbox
And sent it special D.
Bright in early next morning
it came right back to me.

She wrote upon it:
Return to sender, address unknown.
No such number, no such zone.

This time I'm gonna take it myself
and put it right in her hand.
And if it comes back the very next day
then I'll understand the writing on it

Return to sender, address unknown.
No such person, no such zone.
Doggerel Poem Modeling and Deconstructing the Text/ Vocabulary

Activity 2

Instructions:
a. Read Vocabulary List
b. Answer questions

Vocabulary:
**Doggerel Poem:** A poem that utilizes couplets and rhyming words in a story to express emotions, ideas or thoughts that can be humorous, sad or neutral.

**Rhyme:** Two words that sound the same; but do not need to be spelled the same.
For example: *to, you, back, flap, top, flop, heat, beat.*

**Couplet:** Two sentences that end with two rhyming words. These two sentences are called a couplet.

**Tetrameter Couplet:** There is also a *tetrameter couplet* where the first and third line rhymes.

**Balance:** The sentences have to be well balanced in terms of how many words, syllables and stops there is in pronouncing it. The couplet has to be balanced and the last words must rhyme.

Questions:

1. **What are six pairs of words that rhyme from the song?**
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

2. **What type of couplet is being used in the song, a single couplet or a tetrameter couplet? Please write one example of the type of couplet you find in this song.**
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________

3. **Is this song funny, silly or sad? Why?**
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
   ____________________________________________
Doggerel Poem Joint Construction of Text: Images & Rhyming Words

Activity 1:

**Introduction**: In the song, “Return to Sender”, Elvis was inspired by his beloved and used the doggerel format to write his song. Elvis expressed his confusion and frustration over constantly sending a letter and it being returned to him. Below you & your partner will use the images to inspire your short doggerel poem.

**Instructions:**

a. Study the example below.

b. Read the description of the words rhyming in example sentences.

c. With your partner look at the following pictures on p. 9.

d. With your partner brainstorm words that rhyme that can describe the picture you chose.

**Example:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rhyming Word:</th>
<th>Rhyming Word</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em><strong>Raining</strong></em>_________________________</td>
<td><em><strong>hailing</strong></em>_________________________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note**: The pictures are a tool to assist you with content to inspire production of rhyming words. The word do not necessarily have to be connected to each other.

**Description:**

1. In picture one it is ___raining___. (raining and hailing are the rhyming words.)
2. In picture two is ___hailing___.
Images:

1. 

2. 

Rhyming Word: _______________________

3. 

Rhyming Word: _________________________

4.
Rhyming Word: ____________________________  
Rhyming Word: ____________________________  
Example: _____ rises ____________________________

Description:

1. _____________________________________________________________________________
2. _____________________________________________________________________________
3. __In picture number three the sun rises___________________________________________.

Doggerel Poem Joint Construction of Text Worksheet

Activity 2:

**Introduction:** Keep in mind the following couplets should be inspired by the image you chose. Two couplets is a short doggerel poem. Doggerel Poems can have up to five sets of couplets as long as it remains well balanced and all the sentences work together to get the idea across.

**Instructions:**

a. Together construct four short sentences and use the rhyming words at the end. Remember that two sentences that end with a rhyming word is a couplet.

b. Complete

**Couplet #1:**

**Sentence 1:** ____________________________  
(Rhyme Word)
Doggerel Poem Individual Construction of Text: Doggerel Poem / Song

Activity 1

Instructions:

a. Choose one of the images that you and your partner did not write about. Circle the Image.

b. Write five pairs of rhyming words that describe the picture you chose.

c. Rhyming Words:

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________

d. Construct couplets using the rhyming words. Complete all four couplets to complete your doggerel.

Couplet #1:
Sentence 1: (Rhyme Word)
Sentence 2: (Rhyming Word)

Couplet #2:

Sentence 3: (Rhyme Word)

Sentence 4: (Rhyming Word)
Doggerel Poem Individual Construction of Text: Reflection Work sheet

Activity 2

Instructions:
   a. Answer the following questions.

1. What was most difficult about writing a doggerel poem?

2. What are two things about your doggerel poem that you would change and why?
3. Out of the doggerels your peers produced which doggerel did you like best? Why?
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________

4. If you could write one more doggerel what would it be about?
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________________