

Topics

Love, symbols, messages

Aims

- To write definitions at sentence level.
- To speak about ideas and vote for the funniest, most original etc.
- To predict content from vocabulary.
- To listen for specific information
- To write a story

Age group

14+

Level

A2 – B1

Time

40-55 minutes (plus optional homework)

Materials

1. [Audio file](#)
2. [Image file](#) (summer love)

Introduction

This activity is designed to encourage students to develop their higher-level critical-thinking skills to speak about images. The activity is part of a package of materials, which includes audio to help students develop their listening skills.

The lesson incorporates integrated skills, with a focus on telling stories.

	<p>Why did the photographer take it? What has happened since? Brainstorm ideas as a class.</p>
6.	<p>Tell students they are going to hear the photographer talking about her photo. Students should attempt to write down the real answers to the questions in step 4.</p> <p>Play the first part of the recording, from the start of the recording until the speaker says “Every summer” (1min: 25secs). With students, discuss:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - where she took the photo - who took the photo - what students learn about her <p>Play the recording a second time if necessary.</p>
7.	<p>Continue with the second part of the recording – from 1 minute 25 seconds until the speaker says “A and J” (2 minutes 20 seconds). Ask students to tell you who drew the heart.</p>
8.	<p>Continue with the third part of the recording (from 2 minutes 20 seconds until the end) and ask students to tell you what has happened since the photograph was taken.</p>
9.	<p>Ask students to work together to verbally reconstruct the story of the photo, using their answers to the questions and the word cloud to help.</p>
10.	<p>Ask students to choose a photograph from the set Love and Romance http://www.flickr.com/photos/eltpics/sets/72157629301043891/</p> <p>Using the questions in steps 4 to 7 to help write notes or a plan, ask students to write a story for the photo they have chosen.</p>

Contributors

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Photograph by: Mieke Kenis

Transcript

I am from Belgium, and when I was a child, our holiday at the beach in Belgium was the absolute best moment of the year, the thing we waited for and dreamt about for twelve months.

My parents first took us to the beach in Belgium in summer 1958 – I was very young - and since that time, and oh, it seems a long time ago, ... since that time, I have spent a few days at the beach in Belgium every year, every single year, so that it means more than fifty holidays!

Now I am the parent, I have my own children, and my children inherited that love for the beach, so this annual visit has continued as a tradition in my own family too, we still spend a few days or or a week or two at the beach here in Belgium in summer. Every summer.

And this photograph is of the beach, of course, in Belgium. I took it in 2010, I think. And the story...? Well, my son went for a walk along the beach with his girlfriend, a romantic walk as young people do, young people in love... and like all young lovers all, um, everywhere in the world, they drew a heart. This heart. And in this heart they drew – or they wrote - their initials in the wet sand, as you can see - A and J.

But, as always, of course, the sea washed away the heart, it took it away, the heart was gone forever..... but they – my son and his girlfriend – their love continues, they are still very much in love today.

INTERVIEWER

Aaah, what a romantic story.