

Lesson Plan #2 – Writing

Title: Listening and Punctuation and Grammar, oh my!

Objectives: In this lesson, the participants will:

1. gain practice in constructing sentences with appropriate grammar and punctuation.
2. gain practice in listening closely in order to accurately write what was said.
3. demonstrate how to write and punctuate what was said in an accurate manner.
4. demonstrate ability to recognize if what was dictated and written is indeed grammatically correct.

Session Time: 50-60 minutes

Equipment: Chalk board or dry erase board or large post-it. Chalk, dry erase markers, or markers.

Materials:

12 white 3” X 5” cards, each with a noun and verb as follows:

goose, honk	sports car, race	newspaper, appear	advertising, sell
mouse, squeal	grass, grow	art, suggest	water, relax
fire, heat	snow, play	lamp, cast	sea, rock

(Example: The stormy sea rocked the ship. Or, The stormy sea rocks the ship.)

You will also need 12 blank 3 x 5 cards.

Methods: Guided discussion, role-playing, interactive participation

Procedure

Prior to doing this activity, students need to be aware of sentence construction and subject/verb agreement. They may use singular or plural, or past/present/future tenses. And remember: the writer writes only what he or she hears, so it is important that the speaker speak clearly.

Activity

Partner up!

Partner #1: Take a 3 x 5 card from the Stack #1 (with words).

Using the word or words on the card, create a sentence with appropriate punctuation and grammar. Do not write it down. Turn to your partner and say the sentence. You may include punctuation where you think it is appropriate. But you can say the sentence only once.

Partner #2: take a blank card from Stack #2. Write the sentence exactly as it is said to you. Include whatever punctuation your partner has indicated. You may add whatever punctuation you think is appropriate. Then, write it on the board or large post-it note at the front of the room.

If time allows, switch roles and do it again.

As a group, we will then look at all the sentences and discuss them in terms of correct grammar and punctuation. What have you learned?

Conclusion:

Provide an opportunity for students to discuss what they learned. Students may find that it is sometimes difficult to accurately write down something someone else has said. They may also find that they had to consider whether to add punctuation, and whether there was subject/verb agreement.

Extension: Students, as a group, can write a paragraph using all the sentences. Since they will have to come up with additional sentences, transitions, ideas, etc. for the paragraph to make sense, it is a good small group collaborative writing activity for a small group.

Note: This lesson is included in the workshop, ***Grammar Woes? Don't Axe me, I can't never remember them rules!*** in the ***SIPDC Catalog of Professional Development Opportunities.***