

1. *Alice in Wonderland*

This week's lesson is about *Alice in Wonderland*, the classic work for children written by Lewis Carroll in 1865 and recently adapted into a film version.

Level

Pre-intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level A2-B1 and above)

How to use the lesson

1. Can your students think of any successful books for children (either in their country or internationally) that have also been enjoyed by adult readers, and/or adapted into successful films? Have any of your students seen the recent *Alice in Wonderland* film yet? If so, encourage them to tell the rest of the class what it is about, and what they thought of it. What do they know about the book on which the film is based?
2. Give your students between five and ten minutes to read through Worksheet A, encouraging them to look up new vocabulary. Note that many of the words that might be new are not in the glossary because they form part of Exercise 1.
3. Give each student a copy of Worksheet B, then divide the class into pairs and ask students to work together to complete Exercise 1, in which they have to find the words to match the definitions.
4. Check answers in open class.
5. Tell the students they are going to prepare a quiz for each other. Then divide the class into two teams, A and B.
6. Cut Worksheet B in half and give each member of each team the corresponding half. Explain that each team has to work together in order to formulate the questions that produce the answers given, based on the text on Worksheet A. Note that it is possible for there to be slight variations of each question.
7. When both teams have finished preparing their questions, ask them to turn over Worksheet A and the glossary so that they can't see them.
8. The two teams now take it in turns to ask and answer the questions. Encourage the teams to confer before answering, but make it clear that once they have given their answer they cannot change it. You should only accept answers given in correct English. Keep the score on the board; the team with the most correct answers at the end of the quiz wins.

Answers:

Exercise 1

1. odd
2. hole
3. reality
4. logic
5. temper
6. sequel
7. character
8. leave behind
9. bizarre
10. amusing
11. pseudonym
12. croquet
13. playing card
14. come to life
15. mallet

Exercise 2

Team A

1. What is the full name/title of the book *Alice in Wonderland*?
2. Where does *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* take place?
3. What does the cat leave behind?
4. What was Lewis Carroll's real first name?
5. Who has a bad temper?
6. What happens to Alice when she drinks the liquid?
7. How old is Alice in the book?
8. What are hedgehogs (used as) in the book?

Team B

1. When did Lewis Carroll write *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*?
2. Where does the talking caterpillar sit?
3. What did Lewis Carroll do in 1871?
4. What are flamingoes (used as) in the book?
5. Where is the director of the film *Alice in Wonderland* from?
6. Who speaks to Alice at the end of the story?
7. How old is Alice in the film *Alice in Wonderland*?
8. What kind of questions do many characters ask?

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

http://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alice%27s_Adventures_in_Wonderland

The *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* entry from Simple English Wikipedia. Challenging for pre-intermediate level.

<http://www2.disney.co.uk/DisneyMovies/alice/>

The official website of Tim Burton's *Alice in Wonderland* film (2010). Intermediate level and above.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/newsid_8530000/newsid_8534500/8534548.stm

A review of the film *Alice in Wonderland* from BBC Newsround. Accessible to pre-intermediate level.

<http://www.sabian.org/alice.htm>

A website with the entire text of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and its sequel, *Through the Looking Glass*. Pre-intermediate level and above.