

Three ways to tell a story

1. Use isolated story items
2. Read a text aloud
3. Use a storytelling gap fill



1. Use isolated story items

Identify some key elements from the story. Give them to students and get them to:

- a. Ask you questions to predict what happens in the story (or)
- b. In pairs or groups, predict what happens in the story

A terrifying chicken

July, 1983

A terrified girl

A quiet village,
somewhere in France

A mean big brother

2. Reading a text out aloud

For this, we looked at the Charlie Chaplin lesson on Lessonstream:

<http://lessonstream.org/2017/03/10/an-unusual-lunch/>



Reading a text aloud is an essential skill for any language teacher. And the short text in this activity is perfect for doing so.

Why:

- a. You can use gesture to reinforce meaning
- b. The fact that it is interactive (i.e. students have to work out what a table hooter is) means that we can read it out more than once (3 or 4 times perhaps)
- c. We can use the shaky jigsaw technique. In other words, after students have heard it two or three times, you can read it out again and then pause to elicit words, phrases, etc.

3. Storytelling gap fill

This is similar to a paper-based gap fill but involves reading the text out and pausing to elicit the missing words / phrases.

Note: Give the missing phrases out before you read the text.



The text

July 1983. I was 11 years old. I was on holiday in France with my family.

I was starting to get **into photography**. I had a new camera and I was **taking photographs of everything I saw**. This was my new hobby.

Now, there was one day during the holiday when we were **walking through a car park**. And in the car park, there were **some geese and some chickens**.

Suddenly, the geese and the chickens **ran towards my sister and surrounded her**.

For my little sister, this was **a terrifying situation**. She thought that the geese and chickens were **going to attack her**. She was scared and **she started to cry**.

For me, this was my big opportunity. A ticket into the world of photojournalism perhaps? As quickly as I could, I took out my camera and took a photograph of the scene.

33 years later, she forgave me.

