

Activity Type

Listening and Vocabulary Activity: gap-fill (group work)

Speaking Activity: classroom discussion

Focus

Adjectives

Aim

To complete a song gap-fill with adjectives and then discuss the meaning of the adjectives and song.

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each student. You will also need a copy of the song "Hand in my Pocket" by Alanis Morissette.

Warning: This song contains one swear word (chickenshit). The word has been changed to chicken on the worksheet and in the YouTube music video the word is clipped.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

In this adjectives activity, students complete a song gap-fill with adjectives and then discuss the meaning of the adjectives and song.

Procedure

Divide the class into five teams. Assign each team a letter, e.g. Team A, Team B, etc.

Give each student a copy of the worksheet. On the board, write the title of the song and the numbers for the missing words.

Working alone, students listen to the song two times and complete the gaps with adjectives.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CUjIY_XxF1g

Before you play the song a third time, students compare and discuss the answers in their teams.

Then, play the song again and have the students confirm their answers with their teammates.

After that, teams take it in turns to choose a number and write the missing adjective on the board.

Award one point for the correct adjective and one point for spelling.

If a team spells an adjective incorrectly, another team can steal a point by being the first to correct the spelling.

Continue like this until all the missing words have been written on the board. If the teams are really struggling, play the song another time.

After all the words have been written on the board and the winning team has been announced, discuss the meaning of the adjectives and song. Get feedback on what the students think the song is about and round off the activity.

Answer key

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1. broke | 9. sane | 17. tired | 25. friendly |
| 2. happy | 10. overwhelmed | 18. restless | 26. sad |
| 3. poor | 11. lost | 19. wrong | 27. brave |
| 4. kind | 12. hopeful | 20. free | 28. sick |
| 5. short | 13. drunk | 21. focused | 29. pretty |
| 6. healthy | 14. sober | 22. green | 30. fine |
| 7. high | 15. young | 23. wise | |
| 8. grounded | 16. underpaid | 24. hard | |

Song by Glen Ballard and Alanis Morissette

Listen to the song "Hand in my Pocket" and complete the gaps with adjectives.

I'm (1) but I'm (2), I'm (3) but I'm (4)

I'm (5) but I'm (6), yeah

I'm (7) but I'm (8), I'm (9) but I'm (10)

I'm (11) but I'm (12), baby

What it all comes down to

Is that everything's gonna be fine, fine, fine

'Cause I've got one hand in my pocket

And the other one is giving a high five

I feel (13) but I'm (14), I'm (15) and I'm (16)

I'm (17) but I'm working, yeah

I care but I'm (18), I'm here but I'm really gone

I'm (19) and I'm sorry baby

What it all comes down to

Is that everything is going to be quite alright

'Cause I've got one hand in my pocket

And the other one is flicking a cigarette

What it all comes down to

Is that I haven't got it all figured out just yet

'Cause I've got one hand in my pocket

And the other one is giving a peace sign

I'm (20) but I'm (21), I'm (22) but I'm (23)

I'm (24) but I'm (25), baby

I'm (26) but I'm laughing, I'm (27) but I'm chicken

I'm (28) but I'm (29), baby

And what it all boils down to

Is that no one's really got it figured out just yet

I've got one hand in my pocket

And the other one is playing the piano

And what it all comes down to, my friends, yeah

Is that everything is just (30) fine fine

I've got one hand in my pocket

And the other one is hailing a taxi cab

