



4 Drama Activities to Enhance EFL Speaking Workshop

1/11 14:30~15:30

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Introduction

3-point Framework

4 Activities

- Spaceball: *Voice projection*
- Readers Theatre: *Prosody, intonation, stress*
- Who What Where: *Common speech patterns & communication skills*
- Conflict Drama: *Intense speech patterns & communication skills*

Discussion



Framework

Theoretical Background

Vygotsky Sociocultural Theory

- Learning occurs through interacting with environment. (Cong-Lem, 2025).
- **Conflict:** Dramatic situation or stimulus
- **Perezhivanie:** Emotional experience
- **Learning** occurs on **2 planes**
 - external (performative)
 - internal (reflexive) (Rubtsova & Daniels, 2016; Vygotsky, 2012)
- **Reflection** (journals or discussion)



Framework for Activities *not just for drama!*

Language Point: Grammar, Vocabulary, Voice

Dramatic Point: Objective of Activity

Reflection: Group Discussion

Journal

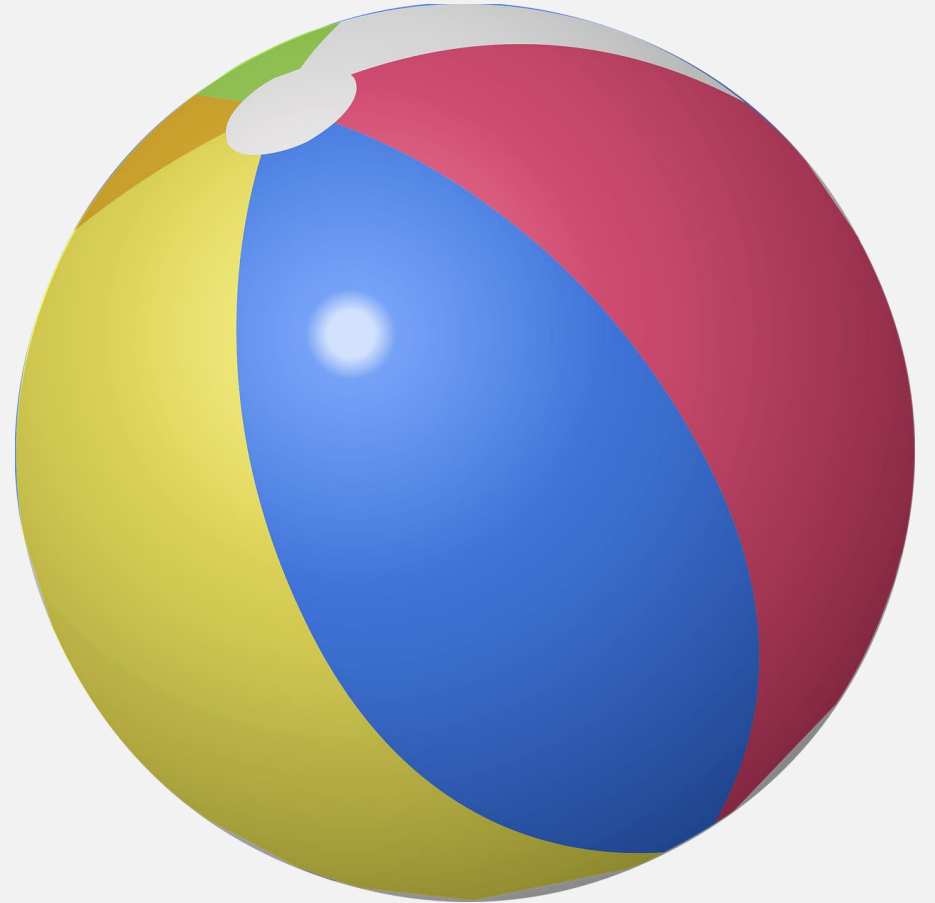
Online Discussion



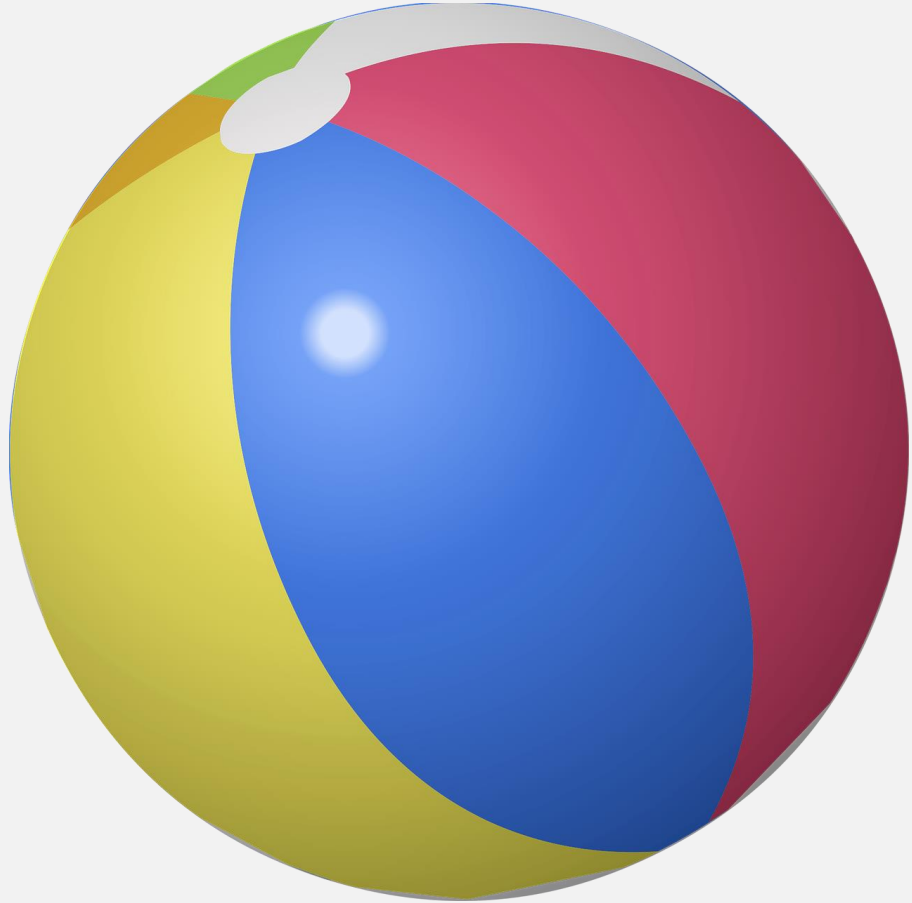
1 Spaceball

Voice Control & Projection

- Get in a group
- First person imagines they have a ball & decides what it is like
(heavy, small, fluffy etc)
- Throw to the next person with a sound to match the ball
- Repeat



1 Spaceball



Language Point: Project the voice

Dramatic Point: Match your voice to how you throw the ball

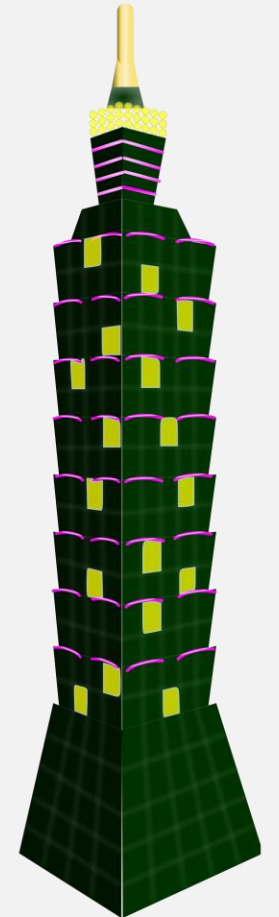
Reflection: Discuss with group

- What voice did you use to throw the ball *high*?
- What voice would you need to throw the ball to the back of the room?

2 Readers' Theatre

Prosody, Intonation, Stress

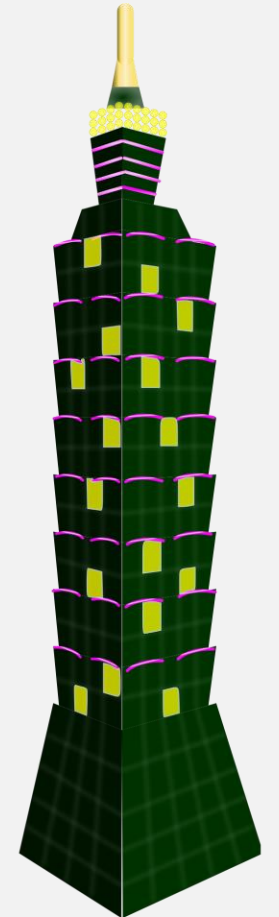
- Dramatic reading aloud of a text
- Some movement & gesture
- Focus on voice
- No costume
- No props
- No action



2 Readers' Theatre

Prosody, Intonation, Stress

- In group 3-4 look at the passage
- Think about:
 - Who is talking to whom
 - Situation
 - Emotion
- Decide how to read it aloud
 - Individually, pairs, as a group
 - Speed, volume, emotion
 - Repetition, Echo, Clap etc



Skyscraper: Demi Lovato



You can take everything I have
You can break everything I am
Like I'm made of glass
Like I'm made of paper
Go on and try to tear me down
I will be rising from the ground
Like a skyscraper
Like a skyscraper

2 Readers' Theatre

Language Point: Prosody + Interpreting Texts

Dramatic Point: Convey *your interpretation* of the text expressively

Reflection: Reflective journal entry

What went well? What would you improve?

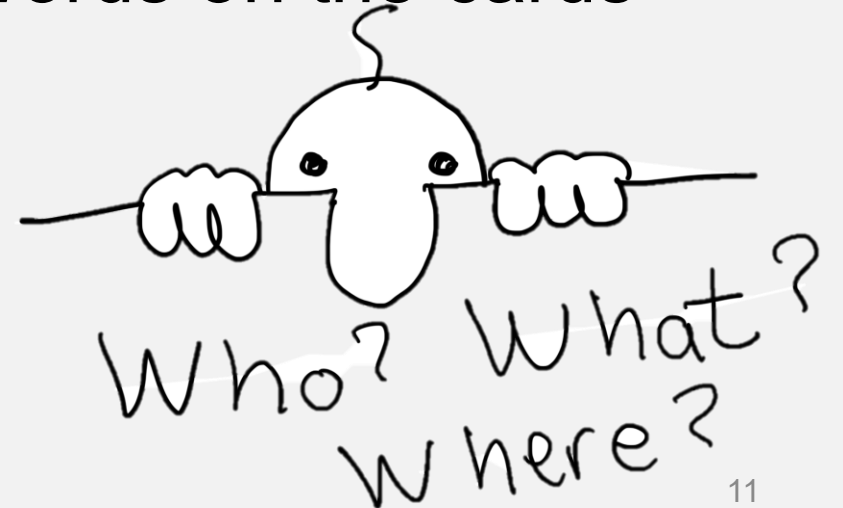
What was the audiences' response?



3 Who, What, Where

Speech Patterns + Conversation Skills

- In groups 3-4
- On each card write a place, a person, an object, and an action
- Mix the cards up
- Redistribute to groups
- You must make a short skit using the words on the cards
- Present your skit to the class
- Target phrases : *Why don't we...*
How about.....
I think we should.....



3 Who, What, Where



Language Point: Making Suggestions

Dramatic Point: Create a scene using the stimuli

Reflection: Reflective journal entry

Did the audience understand your scene?

How would you improve it?

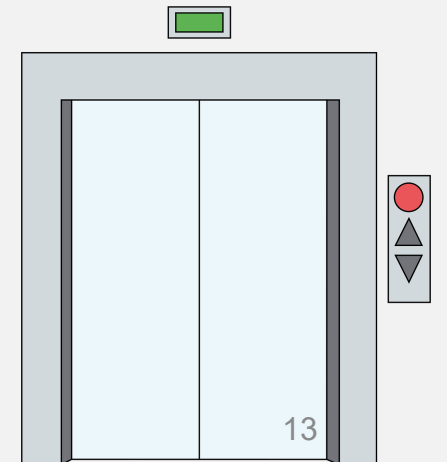
What new phrases or vocabulary did you use or need to review?

4 Conflict Drama

Speech Patterns & Conversation Skills

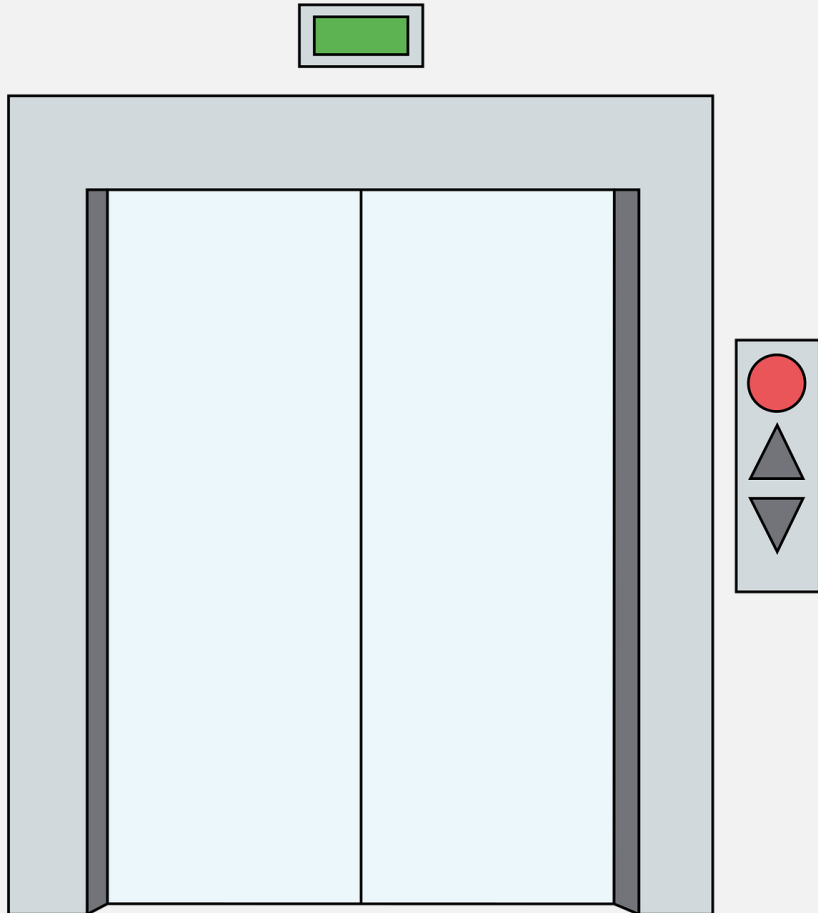
- In groups 3-4
- Look at the beginning of a role play with high dramatic tension
- Decide how the role play finishes
- Plan the dialogue and action
- Perform to the class

- Target Phrases: *Oh my goodness*
This is awful!
We need to.....
What are we going to do?



4 Conflict Drama

Speech Patterns & Conversation Skills



You are in a crowded elevator.
It suddenly stops.
Then you smell gas...

4 Conflict Drama

Language Point: Expressing fear, anger etc

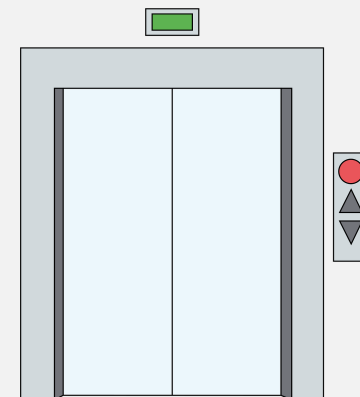
Dramatic Point: Create a scene using the stimuli

Reflection: Online discussion

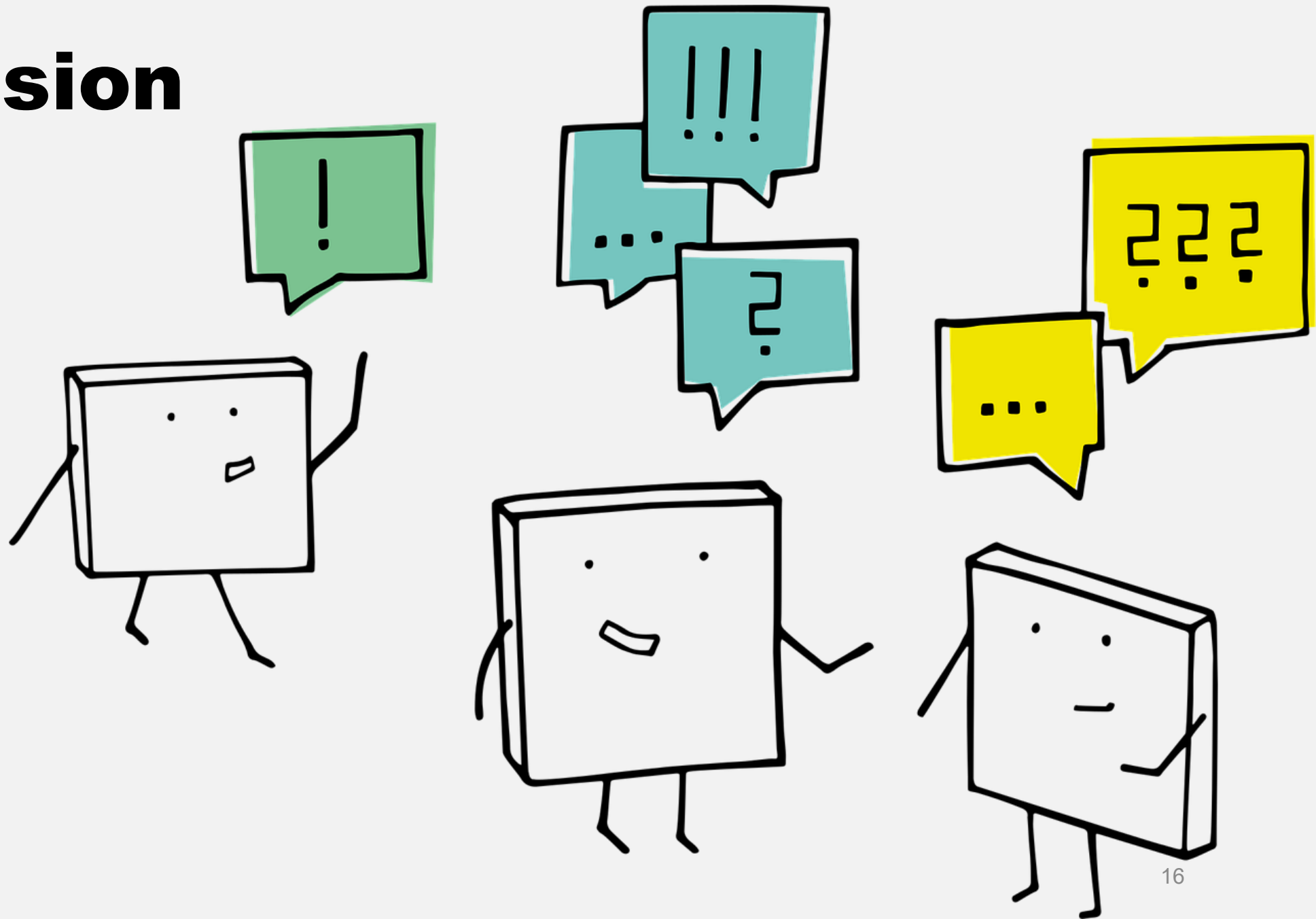
Post what you did well and what you would improve

Comment on 3 groups' posts.

(1 praise & 1 suggestion)



Discussion



References

- Cong-Lem, N. (2025). The relation between environment and psychological development: Unpacking Vygotsky's influential concept of perezhivanie. *Human Arenas*, 8(1), 225–243.
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s42087-022-00314-6>
- Rubtsova, O. V., & Daniels, H. (2016). The concept of drama in Vygotsky's theory: Application in research. *Cultural-Historical Psychology*, 12(3), 189–207.
<https://doi.org/10.17759/chp.2016120310>
- Vygotsky, L. (2012). *Thought and Language* (A. Kozulin, Ed.). MIT Press

A close-up photograph of peacock feathers, showing the intricate patterns and vibrant colors of the 'eyes'. The feathers are primarily green and blue, with brown and white accents.

Contact

ResearchMap

