Russell Johnson : Lesson Plan Ideas for Czech Mission

Barnyard Animals ( great EASY and FUN Icebreaker) 160 min – (15/160)

**Barnyard**

Each person is given the name of an animal with approximately three people having the **same** animal. ( have them pre-written on pieces of paper Ie: Rooster, Chicken, Mouse ( squeak, squeak) dog…etc.)

Spread the group across a field, court, classroom, etc.

**No one** is allowed to tell another which animal he is. *At the signal* each person makes the noise of the animal that he has been given.

The first group to find all of their animals and sit down are the winners.

Larry, I have typed these up for the different choices in duplicates…to hand out in secrecy!

**Listening Exercise** 30 min – ( 45/160)

**A Thief in the Night**

(Here’s where Larry and me get **to ACT** out a short scene, telling the students they will be asked afterwards about “what they heard.”)

**Police Officer:** I hear you ha a THEFT Tonight. Please tell me everything that happened!

**Mr. Grady**: Yes, I was sleeping and I heard a LOUD noise in the Kitchen.

**Police Officer:** What kind of noise?

**Mr. Grady**: Something dropped on the floor

**Police Officer:** Did you See a Thief? Can you describe the person?

**Mr. Grady**: The thief was wearing a Monkey costume!

**Police Officer:** What did you do?

**Mr. Grady:** I ran back upstairs and called the Police!

**Police Officer:** What was taken by the thief?

**Mr. Grady:** Very Odd, he took some of my clothing and some beer out of the refrigerator!

**Police Officer:** Where was Mrs. Brady?

**Mr. Grady:** Sound Asleep!

**Questions and Answers:**

1. What was Mrs. Grady doing when the thief broke in the house?

Ans. **Sleeping**

1. What did Mr. Grady hear that made him know someone was in the house?

Ans: **A Loud noise – something dropping on the floor!**

1. What room was the noise coming from?

Ans: **The Kitchen**

1. What did the Thief look like?

Ans**: a Monkey suit was worn**

1. What was Taken?

Ans: **clothing and beer**

Whoever answers the most questions, was LISTENING! ( This Scene/Story can be changed to however we want?)

**American IDIOM Ideas:** 15 min – (60/160)

“Cross your heart and hope to die.”

This is a saying that children use to make a Promise. The child draws and X over his or her heart with their finger and says*: Cross My Heart and Hope to Die –* It just means he or she is Serious about the promise: IE

Children might talk like this: (Larry or Russell can act out for the class)

**Larry**: “Do you promise you won’t tell anybody our secret?”

**Russell:** “ I promise.”

**Larry:** “Really? Are you Sure?”

Russell: “Cross my heart, (making an X over my heart with my finger) hope to die, stick a needle in my eye.” (points to eye as if he will actually put a needle in his eye if he breaks his promise. Or forget the latter part and just stick with the “cross my heart thing”

\*\* We can call on Two students and ask Them to act out the idiom? Not necessary but it may be a fun idea?

(Other Idioms can be acted out like this for the class and either ask them to act out in pairs or just ask them if they have questions about the idiom.)

**Deserted Island** 20 min – 80/160

Tell our class that they will be trapped/stranded on a deserted Island for one year and cannot leave.

They can ONLY bring **FIVE t**hings with them. (The Island does have Fresh Water, Monkeys, Coconut trees and fish in the surrounding waters.)

They must tell the class the 5 things they decided to bring and **WHAT the importance of each is- they need to try to pick different things!**

**Icebreaker/Alphabet Learning game** - 15 min.- 95/160

We have them all stand in a circle with their heads bowed down looking at their feet. We start by saying: **A** and then ask someone to follow with **B**. The point is to get to **Z** without anyone **saying the same letter at the same time**. Each time this happens they must start over. Supposedly this is one that usually needs a few tries as a group is usually incapable of completing this task in the first few tries. After a few tries, I tell them we will try again in a few days and see if we can do get to Z. It makes everyone laugh a little and ready to settle in!

**Funny Icebreaker –** sure to get them laughing at each other. It’s Called “HONEY”

20 min. – 115/160

Get every one in a circle and someone is selected to go to the Middle of the circle. The person in the middle has to walk up to someone and say, “Honey, I love you.” The person being told this CANNOT SMILE OR LAUGH and has to say, “I’m sorry I do not love you back.” If the person succeeds in saying this without smiling or laughing keeps the person in the middle and has to embarrass him/herself further. However, if the person does laugh, they must switch places.