

# Teaching English Grammar

## Today's class

- Warm up
- Principles for teaching grammar
- Example activity 1
- Example activity 2
- M-U-F framework
- Practice activities

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## Edward Povey - Teaching TESOL

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## Warm up Questions

When I think of grammar, I think of...

When I think of communicating, I think of...

**Let's eat grandpa.**  
**Let's eat, grandpa.**

**Correct punctuation can  
save a person's life.**

밥 먹었어요?

What does it mean?

How are you?



I'm fine thanks,  
and you?

# Principles for teaching grammar

Focus on the “Context of Use”

Past tense:  
We use past tense to talk about holidays.



Comparatives:  
We use comparatives to compare things,  
for example when shopping.



## Principles for teaching grammar

TO BE : Interrogative and Negative		
Affirmative	Interrogative	Negative
I am	Am I ?	I' m not
You are	Are you ?	You aren't
He is	Is he ?	He isn't
She is	Is she ?	She isn't
It is	Is it ?	It isn't
We are	Are we ?	We aren't
You are	Are you ?	You aren't
They are	Are they ?	They aren't

Keep the learning load manageable.

Decide specifically what you are teaching.



## Principles for teaching grammar

“There is no such thing as a simple rule in English.”

### RULES FOR USING THE



#### POINTS OF COMPASS

The North, the South, the East, and the West

*The northernmost point on land is Kaffeklubben Island in the North.*

#### UNIONS OF COUNTRIES, STATES

The United States of America, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, etc.

*The Russian Federation is the biggest country in the world.*

#### GROUPS OF ISLANDS

The Philippines, the Caribbean, the Canaries, etc.

*The Bahamas are the richest islands in the world.*

#### SEAS

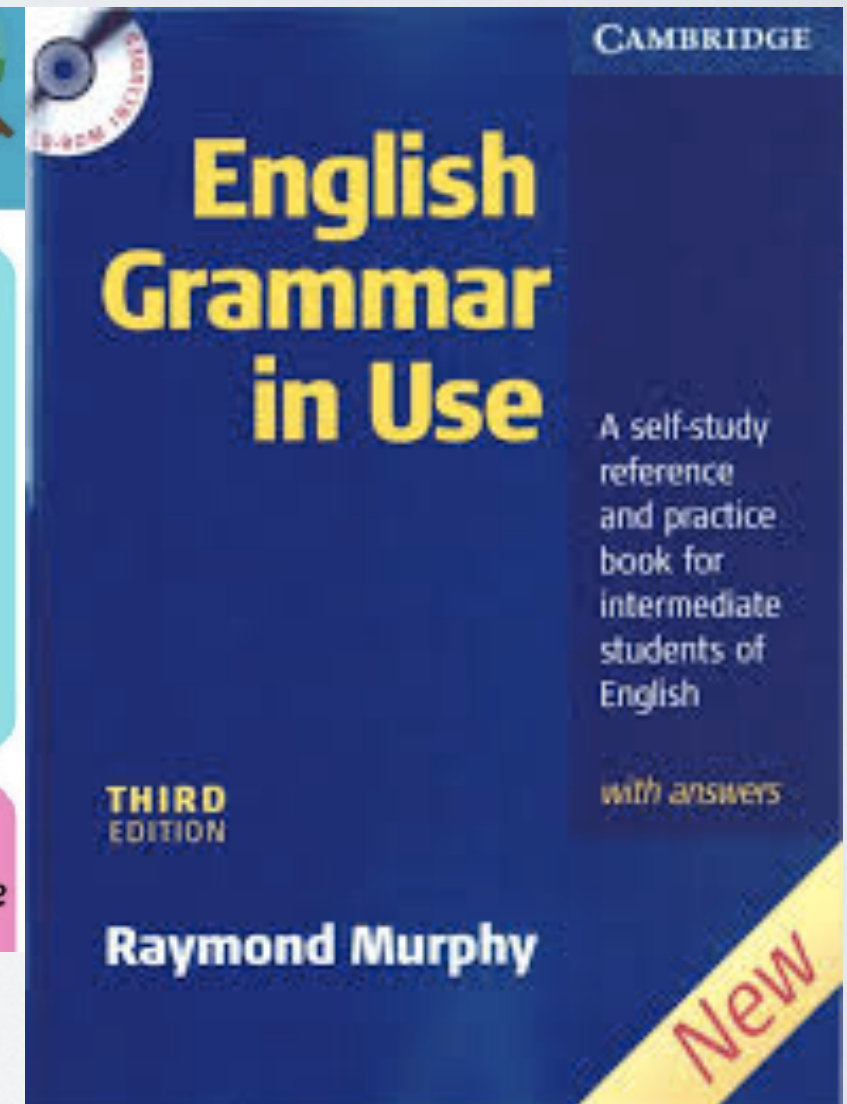
The Mediterranean, the Black, the Red, the Nile, etc.

#### GULFS

The Gulf Stream, the Persian Gulf, the Finland Gulf, etc.

#### GROUPS OF LAKES

The Great lakes, the Shats lake, Great Lakes, the Shats Lakes



<https://7esl.com/rules-for-using-the/>

## Principles for teaching grammar

### Recycle



Review, Re-use

Use:

- demonstration examples
- dialogs
- famous people / celebrities for practice
- real student examples (personalize)

“You shouldn’t...”



# Principles for teaching grammar

Emphasize inductive, not deductive teaching

## Inductive

“Today we’re going to shop for a new phone...”



“...listen to this conversation...”  
“expensive, fast, big, nice...”



checking rules

## Deductive

**Comparative Adjectives**  
(Used to compare 2 things)

“The elephant is **bigger than** the mouse”

One syllable	Two syllables ending in 'y' - change 'y' to 'i' and add er	Two or more syllables
Form: <b>+er than</b>	Form: <b>+ier than</b>	Form: <b>More ... than</b>
Bigger <b>than</b> Smaller <b>than</b> Nicer <b>than</b> Taller <b>than</b> Shorter <b>than</b> Stronger <b>than</b> Weaker <b>than</b> Longer <b>than</b>	Easier <b>than</b> Busier <b>than</b> Prettier <b>than</b> Heavier <b>than</b> Funnier <b>than</b> Smellier <b>than</b> Happier <b>than</b> Friendlier <b>than</b>	more beautiful <b>than</b> more dangerous <b>than</b> more intelligent <b>than</b> more understanding <b>than</b> more complex <b>than</b> more interesting <b>than</b> more difficult <b>than</b> more frustrating <b>than</b>



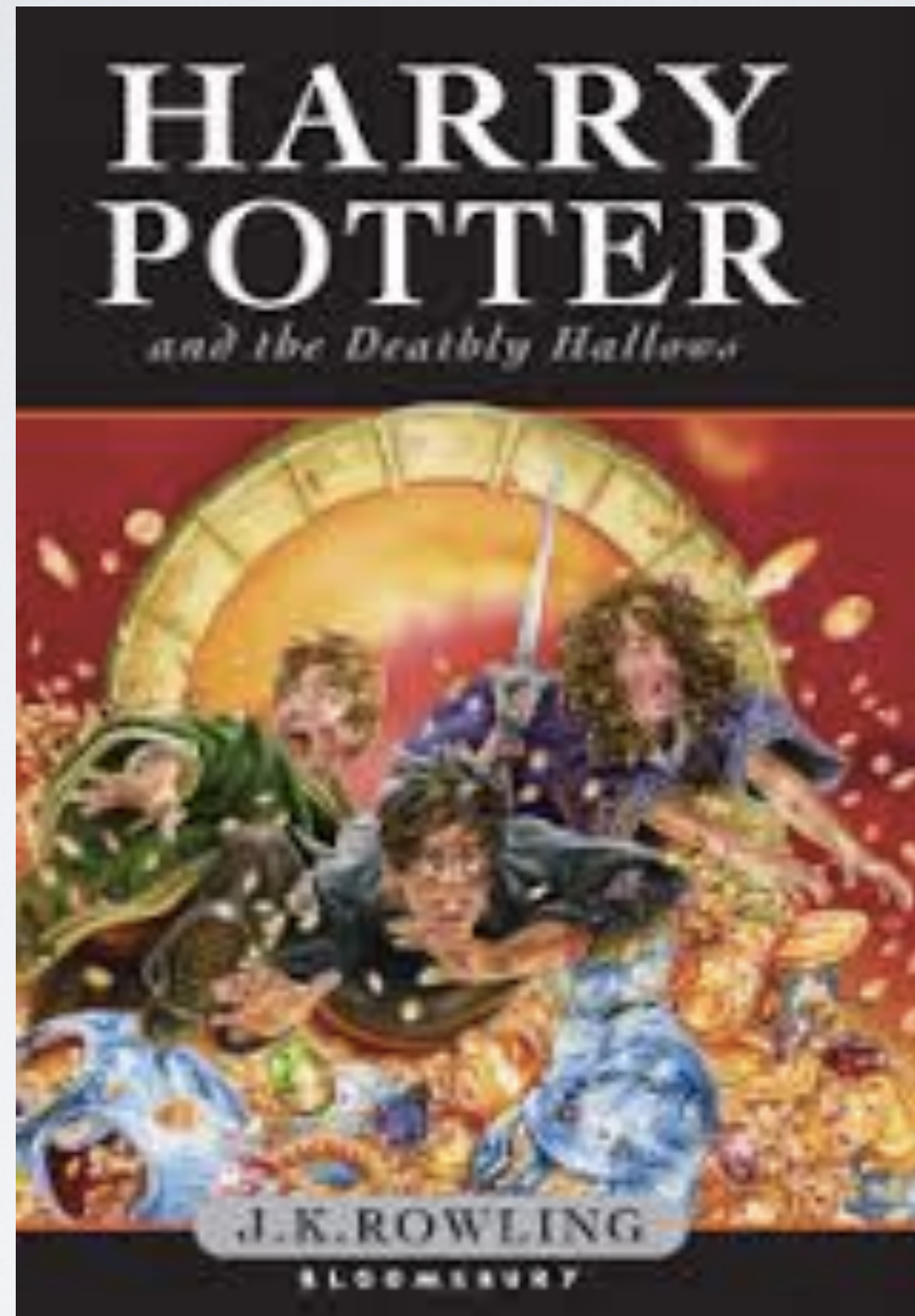
practice



## Example activity 1:

This is an example of an meaning-focused grammar activity.

## GUESSING GAME!!



**This book was written by J.K.Rowling.**

## GUESSING GAME!!



**This song was written by Psy.**

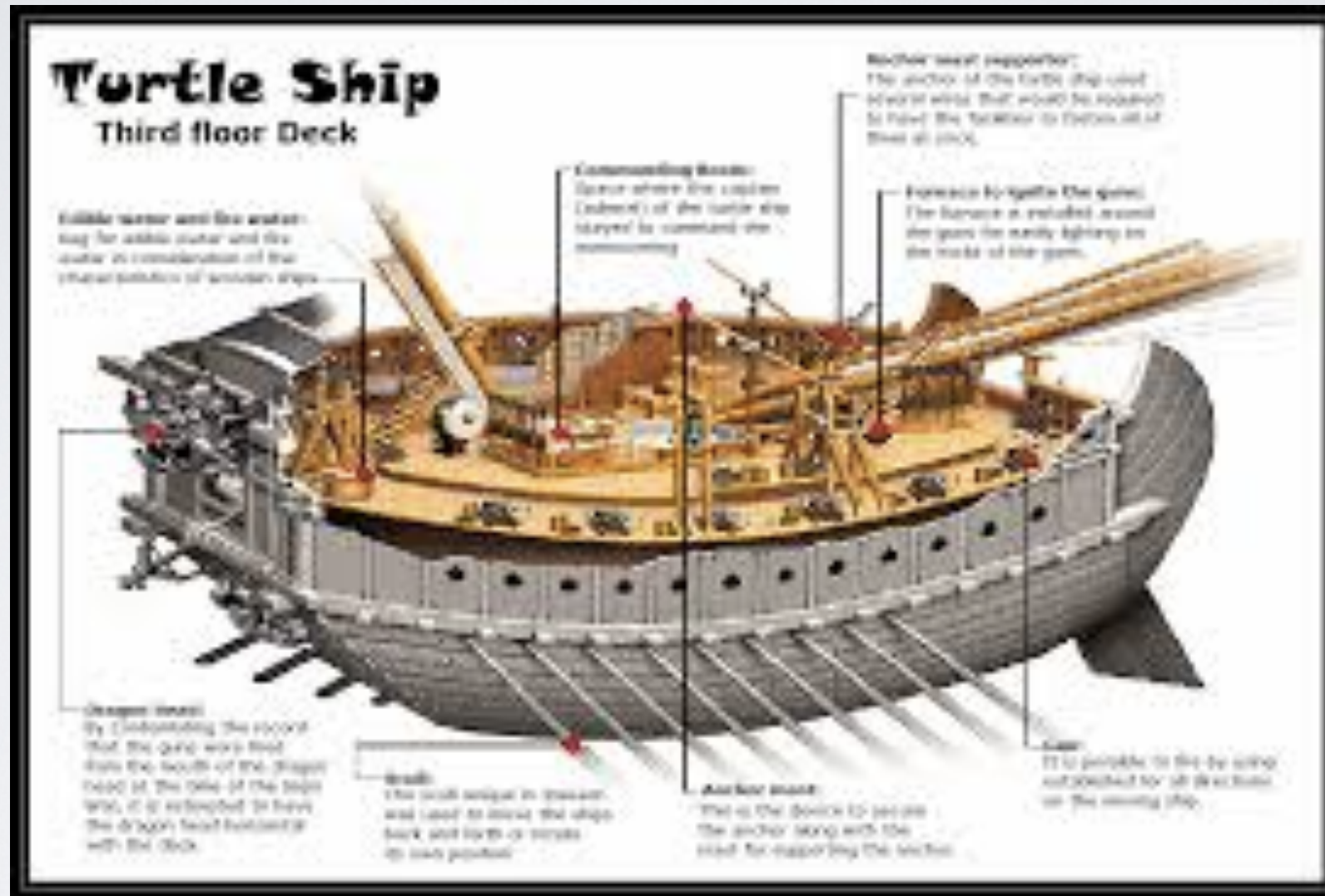
# GUESSING GAME!!

## The Korean Alphabet

Vowels Consonants		ㅏ	ㅑ	ㅓ	ㅕ	ㅗ	ㅛ	ㅜ	ㅠ	ㅡ	ㅣ
		[a]	[ya]	[o]	[yo]	[u]	[yu]	[eu]	[yeu]	[ü]	[i]
ㄱ	[k, g]	가	갸	거	겨	고	교	구	규	그	기
ㄴ	[n]	나	냐	너	녀	노	뇨	누	뉴	느	니
ㄷ	[t, d]	다	댜	더	더	도	도	두	두	드	디
ㄹ	[r, l]	라	랴	러	려	로	료	루	류	르	리
ㅁ	[m]	마	먀	머	며	모	묘	무	뮤	므	미
ㅂ	[p, b]	바	뵤	버	벼	보	뵤	부	뷰	브	비
ㅅ	[s, sh]	사	샤	서	셔	소	쇼	수	슈	스	시
ㅇ	(silent)	아	야	어	여	오	오	우	유	으	이
ㅈ	[ch, j]	차	챤	저	져	조	쵸	주	쵸	즈	지
ㅊ	[ch]	차	차	쳐	쳐	초	쵸	추	쵸	츠	치
ㅋ	[k]	카	카	커	켜	코	코	쿠	큐	크	키
ㆁ	[ŋ]	타	타	터	터	토	토	투	투	트	티
ㅍ	[p]	파	파	퍼	퍼	포	포	푸	퓨	프	피
ㅎ	[h]	하	햐	허	혀	호	호	후	휴	흐	히

This writing system was invented by King Sejong.

# GUESSING GAME!!



This Korean ship was built in 1590.



## GUESSING GAME!!



**This character is played by Rowan Atkinson.**

**GUESSING GAME!!**



**This story was written by Mary Shelley.**

## Quiz

1. Who was The Hobbit written by?

- J.R.R.Tolkien

2. Who was the original Star Wars directed by?

- George Lucas

3. Who was The Terminator played by in the movie?

- Arnold Schwarzenegger

4. Who was “Smells Like Teen Spirit” sung by?

- Nirvana

5. In which country was the hamburger invented?

- Germany

6. When was the MP3 file invented?

- 1989

# Your turn!

**Create 3 questions to quiz your partner.  
You can use your smartphone to research!**

1. Who was ...(book)... written by?
2. Who was ...(movie)... directed by?
3. Who was ...(character)... played by in the movie...?
4. Who was ...(song)... composed by?
5. Who was ...(song)... sung by?
6. Who was ... painted by?
7. Where is...grown/cultivated/harvested?
8. What country is surrounded by...?
9. Where is ... made?
10. Who was ... discovered by?
11. In which country was ... invented?
12. When was ... invented?

# What was the grammar point of that activity?

**Use of the Past Participle**

The structure of the past participle is very simple:  
subject + auxiliary verb (to be) + past participle

The main verb is **always** in the past participle form.

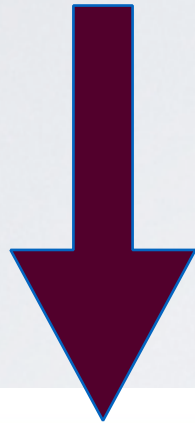
**Look at these examples:**

subject	auxiliary verb (to be)	main verb (past participle)	object
Water	is	drinking	by everyone.
100 people	are	employed	by this company.
I	am	paid	in euro.
We	are	not paid	dollars.
Are	you	paid	en?

Notice how the focus was on the meaning, not the structure.

# Inductive = Communicative!

This Korean ship was built in 1590.  
This writing system was invented by King Seong.  
This song was written by Psy.  
This book was written by J.K.Rowling.



## Construction of the Passive Voice

The structure of the **passive voice** is very simple:

subject + auxiliary verb (be) + main verb (past participle)

The main verb is **always** in its past participle form.

Look at these examples:

subject	auxiliary verb (to be)		main verb (past participle)	
Water	is		drunk	by everyone.
100 people	are		employed	by this company.
I	am		paid	in euro.
We	are	not	paid	in dollars.
Are	they		paid	in yen?

# Deductive

## Construction of the Passive Voice

The structure of the **passive voice** is very simple:

subject + auxiliary verb (be) + main verb (past participle)

The main verb is **always** in its past participle form.

Look at these examples:

subject	auxiliary verb (to be)		main verb (past participle)	
Water	is		drunk	by everyone.
100 people	are		employed	by this company.
I	am		paid	in euro.
We	are	not	paid	in dollars.
Are	they		paid	in yen?



This Korean ship was built in 1590.  
This writing system was invented by King Seong.  
This song was written by Psy.  
This book was written by J.K.Rowling.



Extra grammar tip:

If you can add “by zombies” to the end of a sentence then it is probably passive tense.

## Active or Passive Voice Quiz (form-focus)

1. Harry ate six shrimp at dinner.
2. Two cakes have been bought today.
3. Sue changed the flat tire.
4. The race was finished in record time.
5. The house will be cleaned every Saturday.
6. The application for a new job has been faxed.
7. The teacher always answers the students' questions.
8. The whole suburb was destroyed.

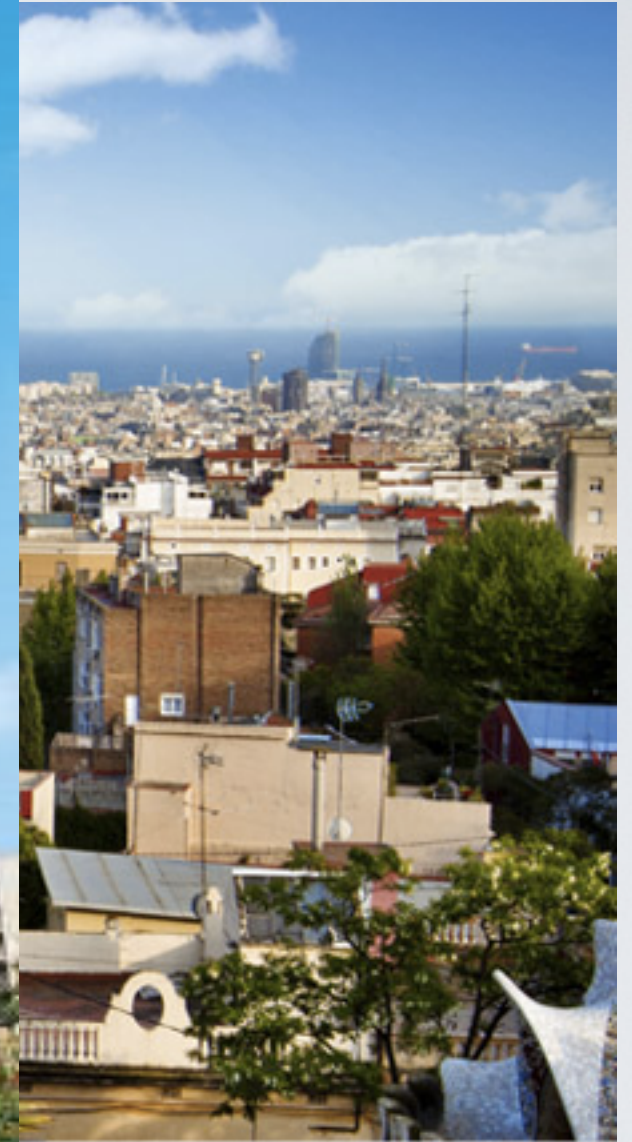




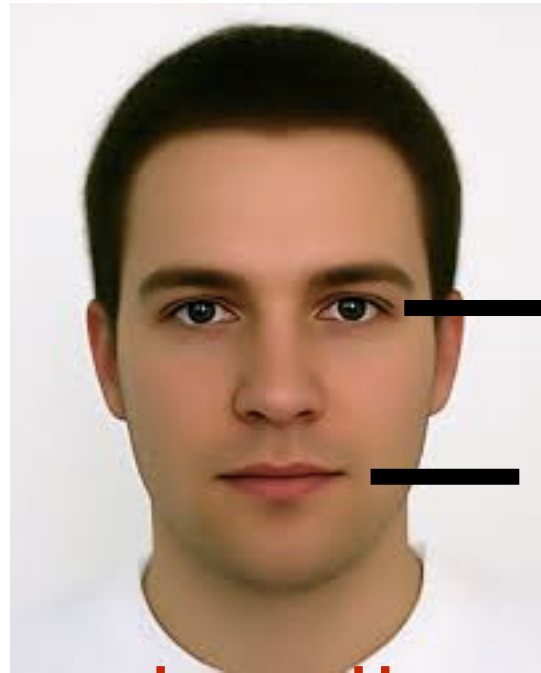
## Example activity 2

This is an example of an inductive grammar activity.

Today we're going to visit a new country.  
Can you guess where?



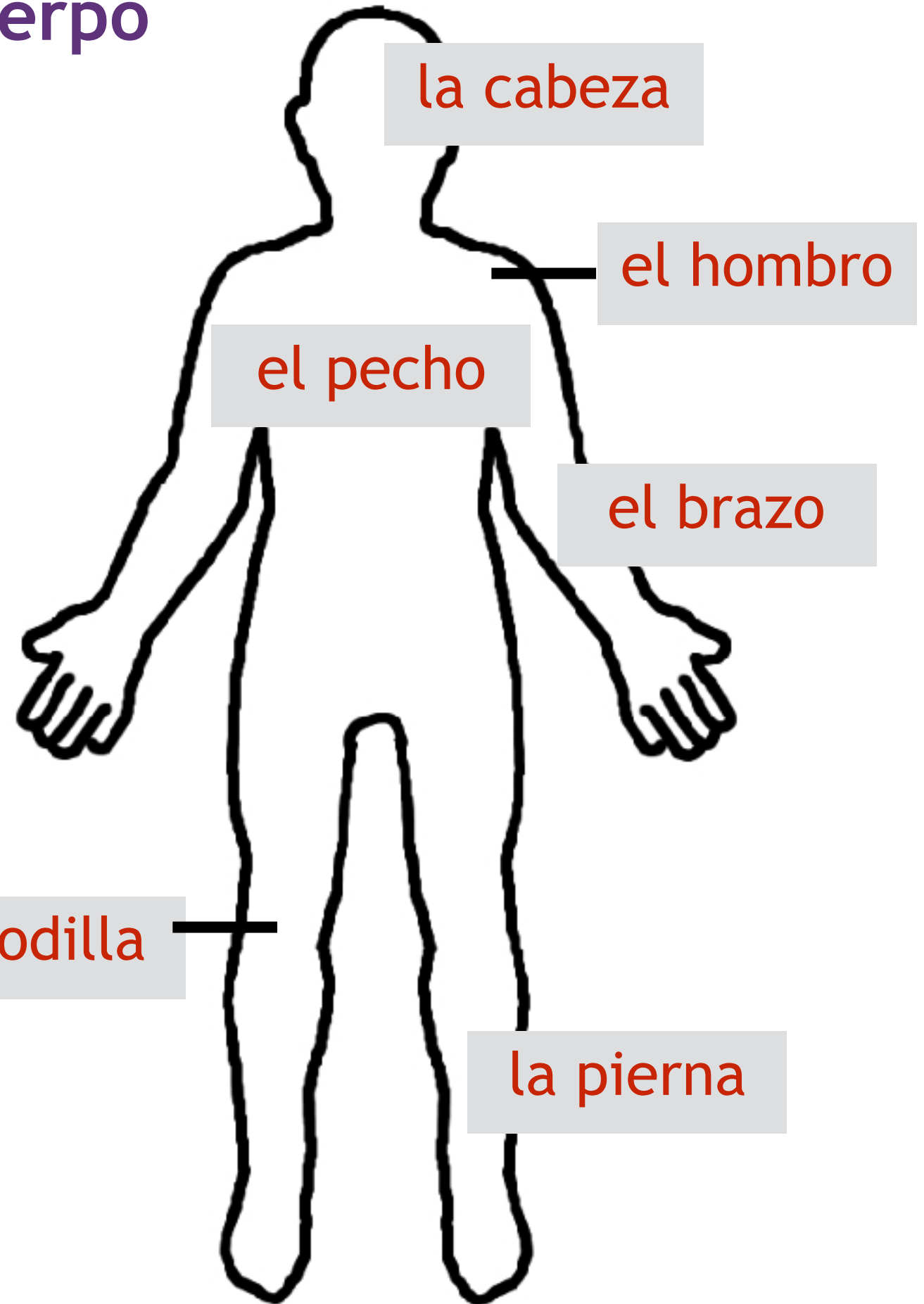
# el cuerpo



los ojos

la boca

el cuello



la cabeza

el hombro

el pecho

el brazo

la rodilla

la pierna



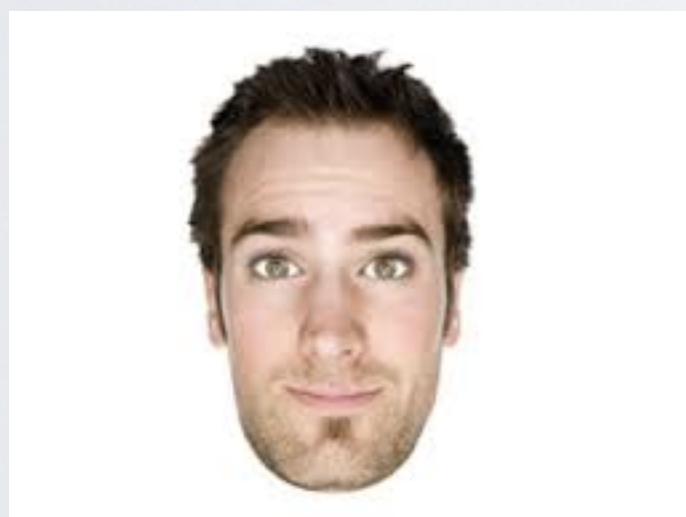
la rodilla



los ojos



el brazo



la capeza



la boca



el hombro

Put these words in the right column.

**hombro, brazo, boca, cuello, cabeza,  
pecho, rodilla, pierna, mano**

el

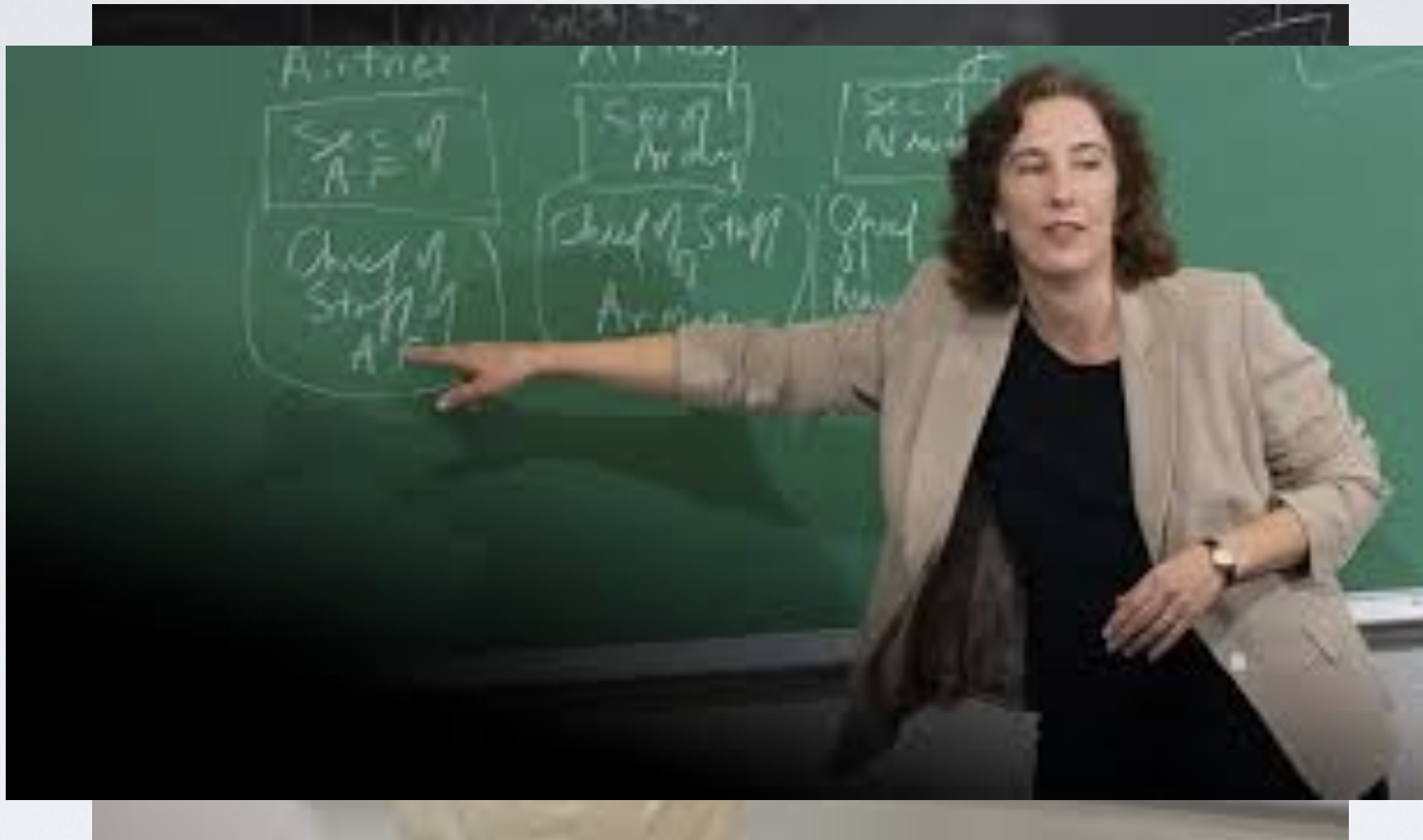
la

Who are these people?



**fashionisto or fashionista**

Who are these people?



el professor or la profesora

**Who are these animals?**



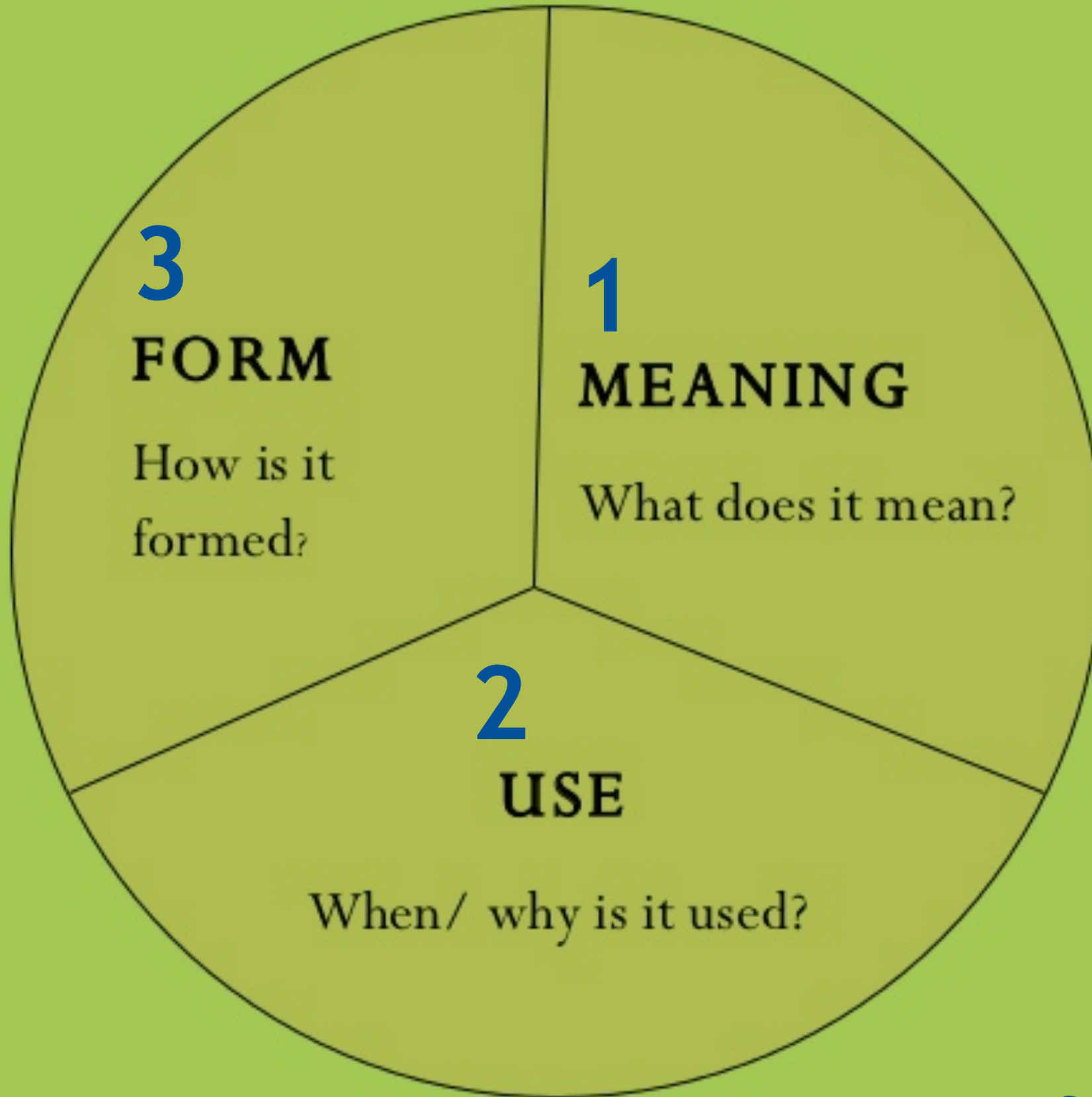
**el gallo or la gallina**



# Review

	MASCULINE		FEMININE	
SINGULAR	el	un	la	una
PLURAL	los	unos	las	unas
	DEFINITE	INDEFINITE	DEFINITE	INDEFINITE

# Teaching vocabulary and grammar



**M-U-F framework**

## M-U-F examples

**Can you play the piano?**

**Can you open the window?**

How is the meaning of these sentences different?

Is the form different or the same?

## M-U-F examples

**“The dog’s b\*lllocks.”**

**“The bee’s knees.”**

These are British idioms that mean “good/amazing”

Notice that the form and the meaning are the same. However, one of these is rude and should not be used in polite settings. This means the “use” is different.

## M-U-F examples

**“What’s the time?”**

**“Have you got the time?”**

According to the M-U-F framework, how are these expressions the same and different?

Which part of the M-U-F framework is different?

# How can we express meaning?

make the context clear

images

photos

diagrams

video

mime

dialogue

examples

# Activities for use

CLT activities  
information gap  
information transfer  
jigsaw reading  
survey  
discussion / debate  
sharing opinions  
problem-solving

# **Form-focused tasks**

## **(conscious-raising tasks)**

- (1) identification (e.g., learners underline the target structure in the data);**
- (2) judgment (i.e., they respond to the correctness or appropriateness of the data);**
- (3) completion (i.e., they are invited to complete a text);**
- (4) modification (i.e., they are invited to modify a text in some way, for example, by replacing one item with another);**
- (5) sorting (i.e., they classify the data by sorting it into defined categories);**
- (6) matching (i.e., they are invited to match two sets of data in accordance with a stated principle); and**
- (7) rule provision (i.e., they may be asked to state the rule they have discovered).**



# 1. MEANING

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

**always**

0% NEVER

50% SOMETIMES

100% ALWAYS

# 2. USE



“I always do my homework. I never play computer games”

# 3. FORM

subject	adverb	verb	predicate
I	always usually sometimes never	eat	peanut butter on toast for breakfast

*What techniques or activities are suitable for each stage?*

# January

2016

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# Quiz your partner

How often do you ride a bike?

How often do you eat pizza?

How often do you do your homework?

I always/usually/sometimes/never ...

---

0% NEVER

30% SOMETIMES

30% USUALLY

100% ALWAYS

## Re-arrange the sentences

1. do a often bike how ride you

2. always ride bike I a

3. often how eat pizza you do

4. pizza eat I usually

## Practice task

In your groups discuss activities for each each of the expressions below using M-U-F framework. Let's practice one together first.

1. prepositions of place:  
in, on, under...

3. possessive pronouns:  
my, his, hers

5. transportation: I go to  
school by car, by bike,  
by subway...

7. modals: You must ...,  
You don't have to...

2. 'at' preposition of  
time: at 7:00pm, at  
lunchtime, at bedtime

4. sports: I can play  
tennis, basketball, golf...

6. present perfect about  
experiences: I've been  
to Paris.

8. comparatives: The ...  
is bigger than the ...

MEANING

activity?

USE

activity?

FORM

activity?

## RESOURCES

Here are some online resources to find materials:

<http://busyteacher.org/>

<https://en.islcollective.com/>