

Ideas for Humor in the ESOL Classroom

Lenore Balliro, Managing Stress to Improve Learning

Some of these ideas are adapted from

<http://www.teacherjoe.us/>

Ask silly questions

When you are reviewing grammar points or conversation practice, casually insert bizarre questions like: *So, how many times have you been to the moon?* Or: *Do you prefer chocolate ice cream or fish ice cream?*

Deliberately make errors or tell blatant falsehood

For example, when reviewing measurements, etc say: *I'm 20 feet tall. I weigh 16 pounds*

Exaggerate

Even when using a phonics based reader, you can model the reading by exaggerating the voices. Like making one character whine or another growl.

View Funny Videos

End classes with funny Youtube clips or make lessons out of funny videos. Check out these below. If these links are no longer active, check out other YouTube videos or sites that offer video clips free of charge.

Cat Antics

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kxa0mnDj0bs!>

Charlie Chaplin Silent Movie Clip

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mYtNMDfyXQ_

I Love Lucy Job Switching Episode

http://www.cbs.com/classics/i_love_lucy/video/?pid=q0FZUzqPt0C3l1dRlaSC2Cy_H_lep65j&vs=Full

Ministry of Silly Walks—Monty Python

www.youtube.com/watch?v=9ZIBUglE6Hc