

The most ridiculous event in history (teacher's notes)

1. Warm-up 3 mins

Aims: to break the ice and create a friendly atmosphere at the lesson.

Procedure: Start a lesson with a small-talk, ask students the following questions:

1. Are you interested in history?
2. What period of history interests you most?
3. What period of history would you like to go back and live in?
4. What do you think is the most ridiculous event in history?

2. Lead-in 3 mins

Aims: to introduce the topic and create a frame structure of the lesson to let student know why and what we are going to learn today.

Procedure: Show a half of the coat of arms of Australia, the part with a kangaroo.



Elicit what animal students can you see, what country it is and let them predict what is in the other half of the picture. Show it and elicit the animal. Say: *"Today we are going to find out some interesting facts about one of the most ridiculous events in the history of Australia. This event was connected with*

3. Pre-reading (Activity 1) 3 min

Aims: to activate a student's schemata and raise interest in the topic.

Procedure: Students try to remember and tell what they know about emus.

Brass

4. Reading for gist (Activity 2) 3 min

Aim: to provide students with reading for gist practice.

Procedure: Students skim the text and chooses the best title for it.

Keys:

2. Emus are big and amazing birds.

5. Reading for details (Activity 3) 5 mins

Aim: to provide students with reading for detail practice.

Procedure: Student read the text more thoroughly and marks the statements as true or false.

Keys:

F, F, F, T, F, T.

6. Vocabulary work (Activity 4) 3 mins

Aims: to provide a student with vocabulary practice and guessing the meaning from the context, to clarify and check meaning, form and pronunciation of the target language presented in the text.

Procedure: Student match the words from the text to their definitions.

Keys:

a beak - the hard, pointed part of a bird's mouth

to declare - to announce something clearly, firmly, publicly, or officially

to hatch - to (cause an egg to) break in order to allow a young animal to come out

hardy - strong enough to bear extreme conditions or difficult situations

a feather - one of the many soft, light things that cover a bird's body, consisting of a long, thin, central part with material like hairs along each side.

Clarify and check the understanding of the vocabulary by drawing pictures, drill the pronunciation if necessary.

7. A follow-up speaking practice (Activity 5) 4 mins

Aims: to provide speaking for fluency practice.

Procedure: Divide students into pairs and ask to discuss the questions. Brainstorm ideas and explanations to the last question open class. Say: "We are going to watch a video to find out the answer to this question. To understand the video about this event better let's deal with some words you'll hear".

8. Pre-listening (Activity 6) 5 mins

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Aim: to pre-teach blocking vocabulary.

Procedure: Students match the words with the pictures which illustrate their meaning.

Keys:

1. - d
2. - a
3. - f
4. - e
5. - c
6. - b

9. Listening for gist (Activity 7) 4 mins

Aim: to provide a student with listening for gist practice.

Procedure: Students watch the video about The Great Emu War and answers the question: Who won the war?

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1yHClIAPUYmMjtZelOmbzaxgxEqjU-3ql>

Keys:

Emu had defeated the men in the greatest, most glorious victory of all time.

Transcript

In 1932 Australia went to war with emus. Emus are native to Australia. These ridiculous flightless birds are surprisingly hard to kill and they basically do whatever they want. Emu became a problem in Australia's cambion districts where 20000 of them were destroying farmlands with their big bird feet. In those days Australia relied heavily on farming. So the government ordered a military operation against the emu. A small army was sent to gun down the birds with 10000 rounds of ammunition and so the first battle began. The men opened fire, but the emus somehow ran out of range before any of them were hit. Here's the problem: whenever a mob of emus sense a danger they break into smaller groups and run in different directions. So they just kept escaping when shooting began and those freaks are fast thanks to their massive legs but humans had technology. machine guns were mounted on trucks to chase down escaping emu people. But still the emu were too fast for the trucks. After multiple battles and thousands rounds of ammunition more than 19000 emu remains and Australia decided to just give up. Emu had defeated the men in the greatest, most glorious victory of all time. It was a major embarrassment to the government who ordered the operation partly as a PR move even sending a camera crew to record the whole thing.

10. Listening for details/writing (Activity 8) 5 mins

Aim: to provide practice for listening decoding skills.

Procedure: Students watch/listen to the video and complete the transcript with the missing words.

Keys:

In 1932 Australia went to war with **emus**. Emus are native to Australia. These ridiculous **flightless** birds are surprisingly hard to kill and they basically do whatever they want. Emu became a problem in Australia's cambion districts where **20000** of them were destroying **farmlands** with their big bird feet. In those days Australia relied heavily on farming. So the government ordered a **military** operation against the emu. A small army was sent to gun down the birds with **10000** rounds of ammunition and so the first battle began. The men opened fire, but the emus somehow ran out of range before any of them were hit. Here's the problem: whenever a mob of emus sense a **danger** they break into smaller groups and run in different directions. So they just kept escaping when shooting began and those freaks are fast thanks to their **mas-**
sive legs but humans had technology. **Machine guns** were mounted on trucks to chase down escaping emu people. But still the emu were too fast for the trucks. After multiple battles and thousands rounds of ammunition more than 19000 emu remains and Australia decided to just **give up**. Emu had **defeated** the men in the greatest, most glorious victory of all time. It was a major embarrassment to the government who ordered the operation partly as a PR move even sending a camera crew to **record** the whole thing.

11. A follow-up speaking activity (Activity 9) 6 mins

Aim: to provide speaking for fluency practice.

Procedure: Students describe thematic photos using the list of words.

12. Feedback/Sum up 6 mins

Aims: to conduct delayed error-correction, review the key points of the lesson, give the student opportunities to draw conclusions from the lesson, to tell a student what results he/she has achieved, to give homework.

Procedure: Write the errors on the board, encourage students to correct them. Elicit new words students have learnt during the lesson. Summarise the lesson and ask students what results they have achieved (Now I/we can ...). Ask them if they have any questions.