

Integrated Skills: Combining Listening, Speaking, Reading, Writing and Grammar

This webinar will address an integrated approach to teaching speaking, reading, listening, writing, and grammar skills.

This session will:

- identify challenges associated with combining language skill areas and discuss ways to overcome these challenges
- explore how to develop and implement a variety of multi-skill instructional options
- equip participants with a toolkit for conducting more interactive, learner-centered lessons that motivate students and hold their interest



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE



Dieter Bruhn



Dieter Bruhn is president and founder of One World Training, specializing in education and training programs around the globe.

With master's degrees in TESOL and Language and International Trade and more than 25 years of teaching and training experience, he has conducted workshops all over the world, including Brazil, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar, India, Pakistan, Korea, Japan, Senegal, and the U.S.

Dieter has served on the Executive Board of Colorado TESOL since 2005, including two years as President. In 2018, he and his co-presenter Patrick Randolph received the “Best of CoTESOL” award for their innovative presentation on using creative writing to enhance academic writing.



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INTEGRATED SKILLS: COMBINING LISTENING, SPEAKING, READING, WRITING & GRAMMAR



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WHY INTEGRATED LESSONS?

Integrated lessons...

- **combine** listening, speaking, reading, writing, and grammar into meaningful contexts.
- **reinforce** language acquisition and learning in different ways.
- **address** more learning styles.
- **make** learning more fun and relevant.
- **can lead** to greater mastery of the language.
- **are suitable** for small and large classes and different levels.



CHALLENGES

What challenges do you face when trying to combine listening, speaking, reading, writing, and grammar in lessons?



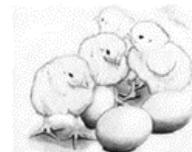
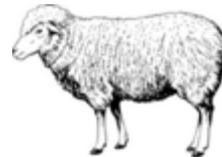
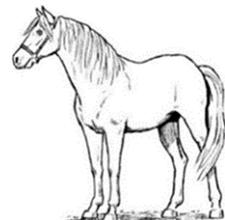
GOALS

- **Recognize** that the challenges associated with combining all of the skills can be overcome
- **Explore** sample lessons that integrate listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar
- **Adapt** activities to different contexts and levels
- **Walk away** with a toolkit of ideas that will motivate students while improving their skills

Lesson 1 – Old MacDonald Had a Farm

1. Use a song as a tool to build interest
2. Introduce vocabulary (animals, barn, pond, road)
3. Present grammar in context
4. Include listening, speaking, reading, and writing
5. Materials

- Worksheets with map of Old MacDonald's Farm
- Cutouts of animals
- Reading worksheets



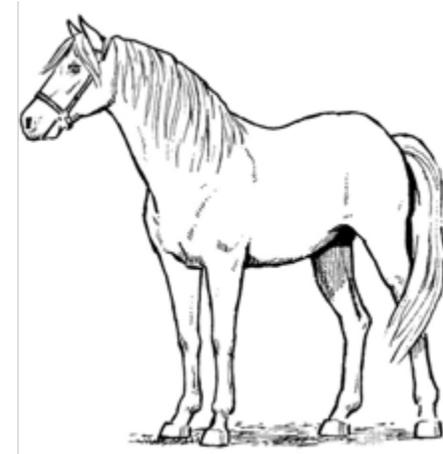
Lesson 1 – Old MacDonald Had a Farm



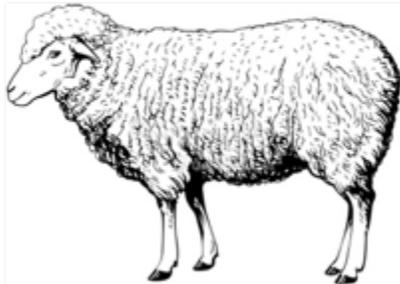
cow - moo



chicks - chick



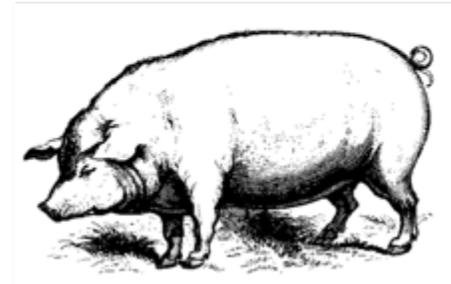
horse - neigh



sheep – baa



ducks - quack



pig - oink

Lesson 1 – Old MacDonald Had a Farm

Old MacDonald had a farm, e-i-e-i-o

And on his farm he had a cow, e-i-e-i-o

With a moo moo here, and a moo moo there

Here a moo, there a moo

Everywhere a moo moo

Old MacDonald had a farm, e-i-e-i-o



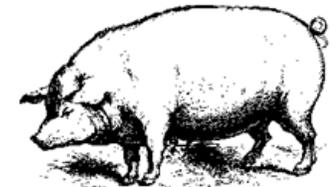
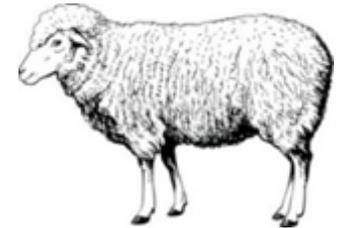
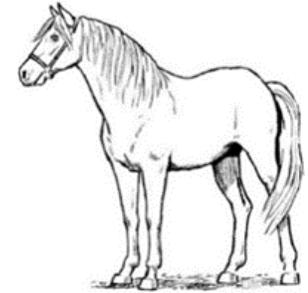
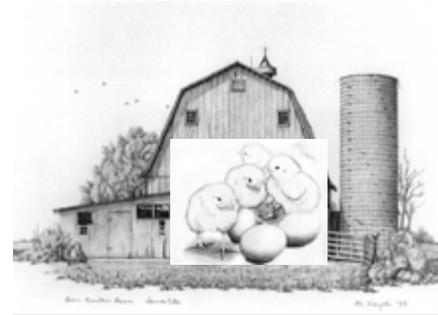
Lesson 1 – Grammar

Prepositions of Location:

- Next to
- Between
- Across from
- In

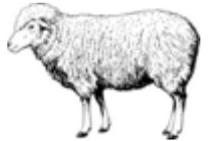
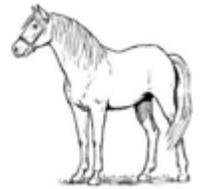
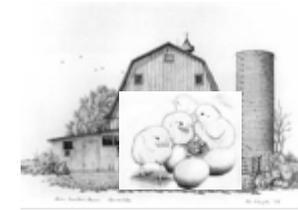
Examples:

- *The cow is between the barn and the pond.*
- *The ducks are in the pond.*



Lesson 1 – Grammar (Structure Chart)

The	cow	is	next to	the	pig
	horse		between		cow
	sheep		across from		horse
	pig		in		sheep
	chicks	are			chicks
	ducks				
					barn
					pond



Lesson 1 – Listening & Speaking

Prepositions of Location

- Next to
- Between
- Across from
- In



Lesson 1 – Listening & Speaking

Prepositions of Location

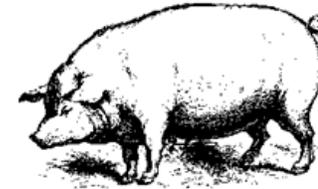
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Lesson 1 – Listening & Speaking

Prepositions of Location

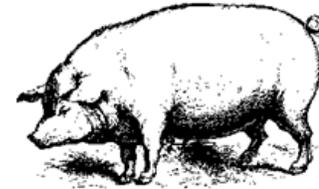
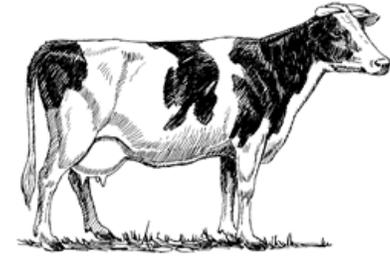
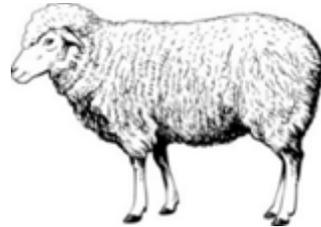
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Lesson 1 – Listening & Speaking

Prepositions of Location

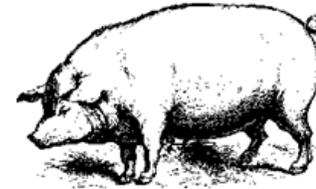
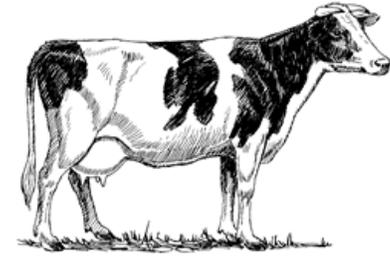
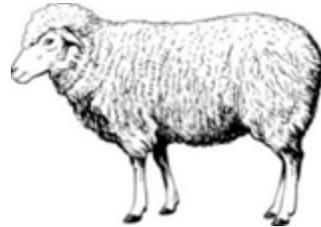
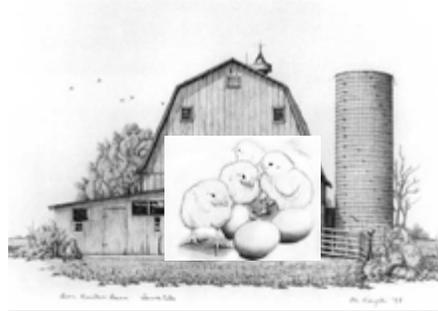
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Lesson 1 – Listening & Speaking

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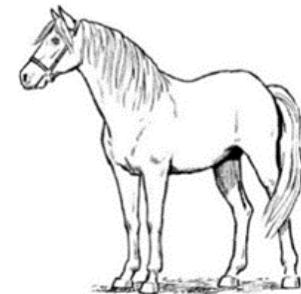
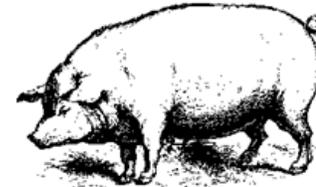
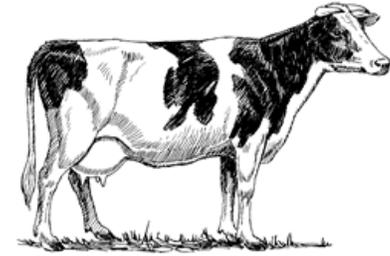
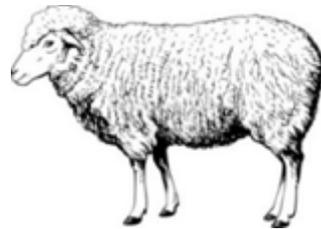
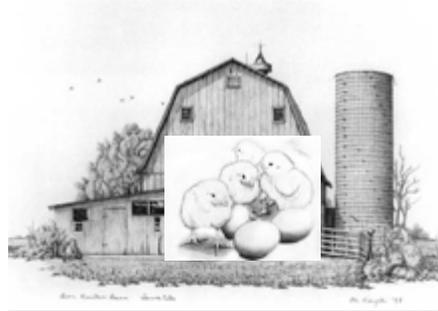
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Lesson 1 – Listening & Speaking

Prepositions of Location

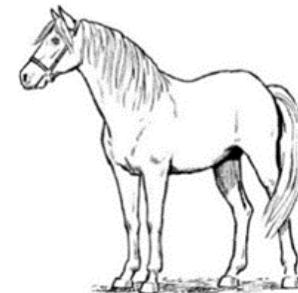
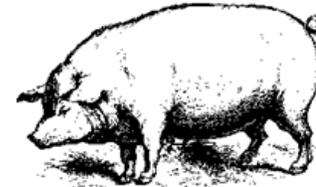
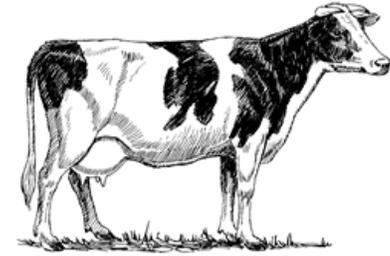
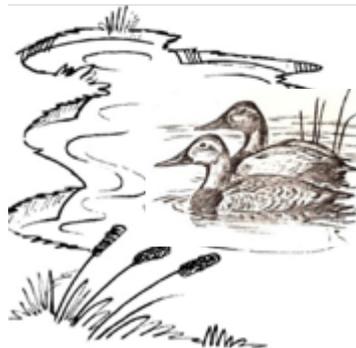
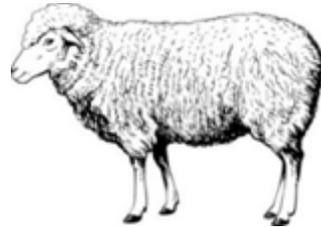
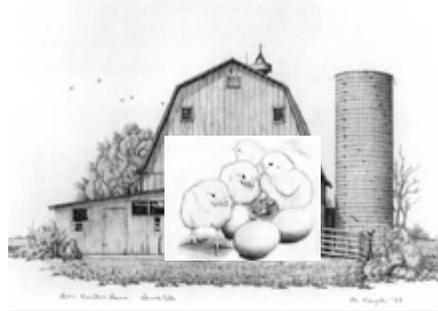
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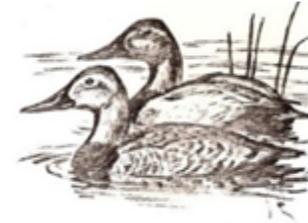
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2. The pig is **across from** the barn.
3. The horse is **next to** the pig.
4. The chicks are **in** the barn.
5. The sheep is **across from** the pond.
6. The cow is **in** the pond.



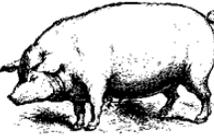
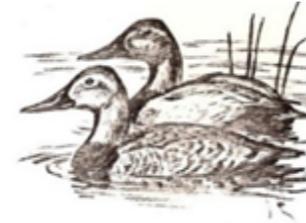
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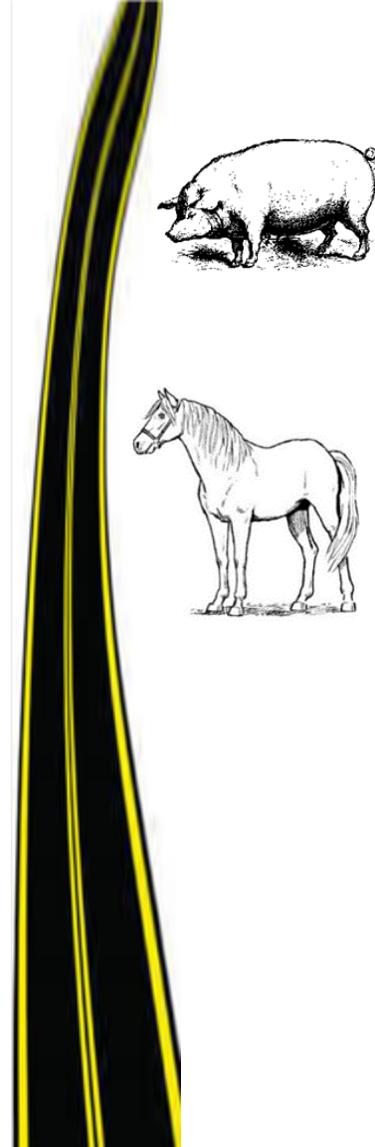
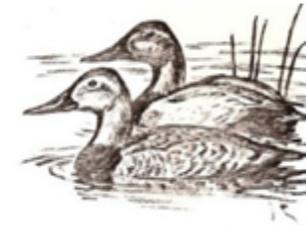
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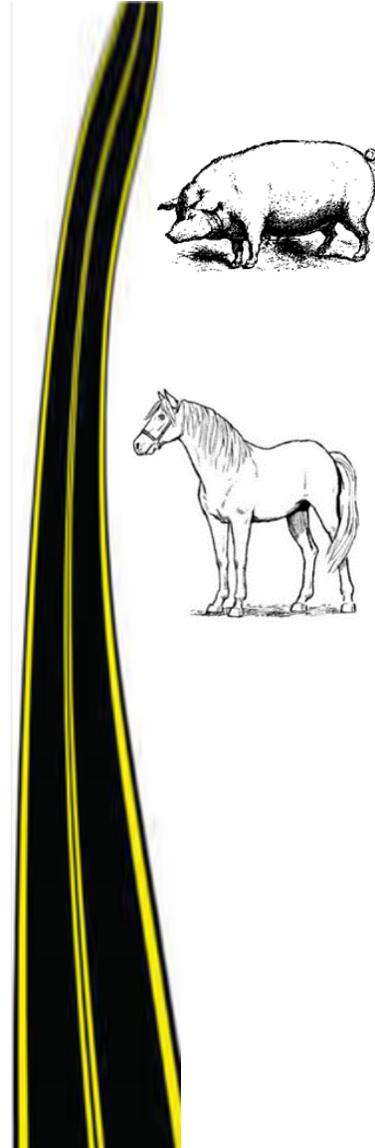
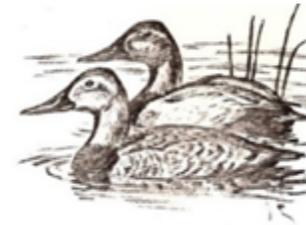
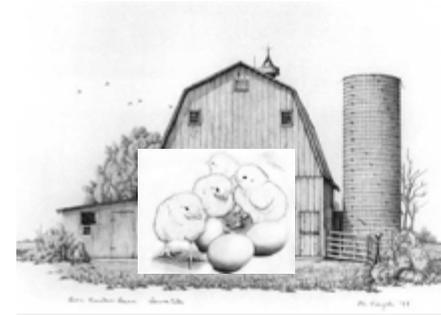
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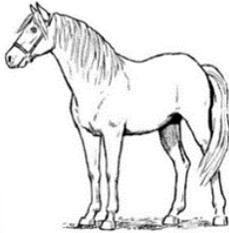
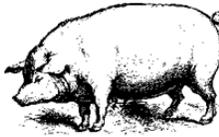
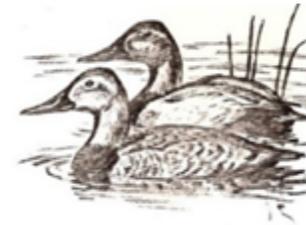
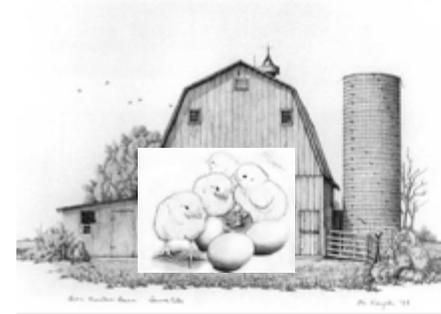
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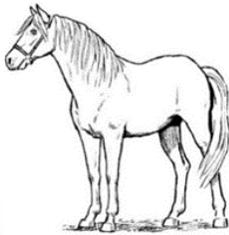
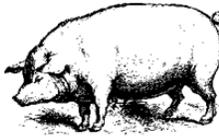
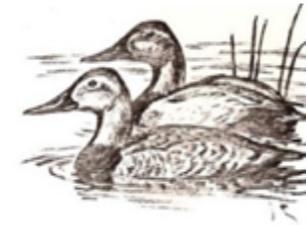
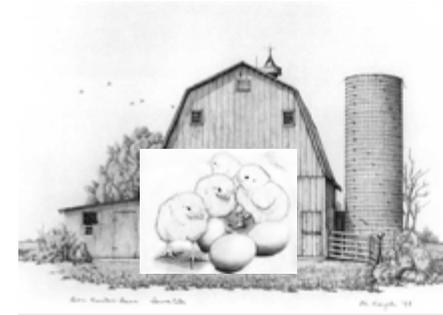
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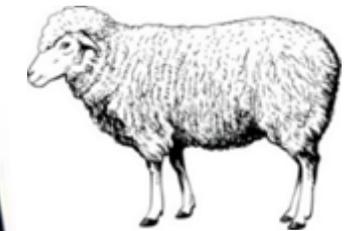
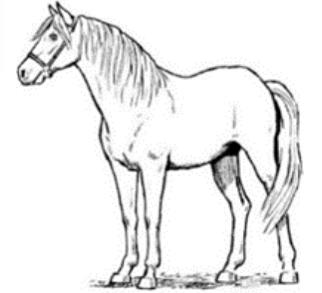
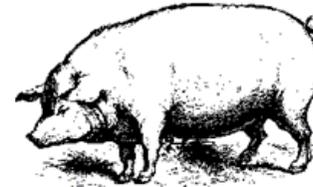
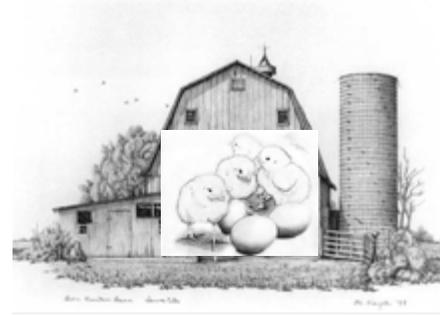
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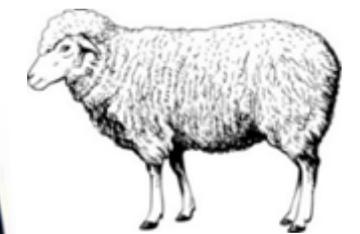
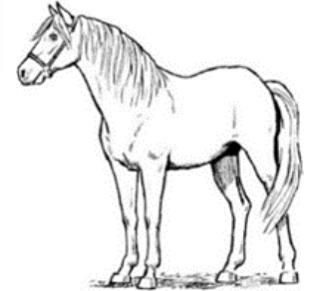
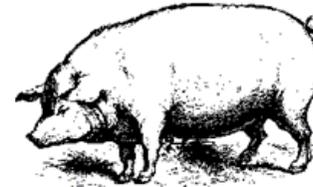
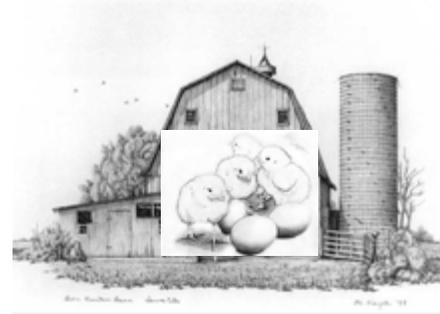
Lesson 1 – Writing

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____



Lesson 1 – Writing

1. The horse is across from the barn.
2. The pig is between the barn and the pond.
3. The cow is next to the horse.
4. The chicks are in the barn.
5. The sheep is across from the pond.
6. The ducks are in the pond.



Lesson 1 – Adapting to Different Levels

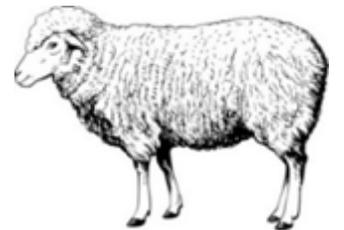
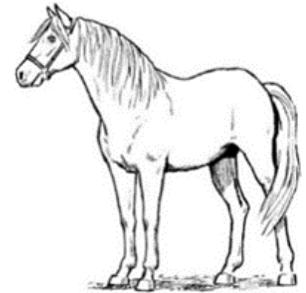
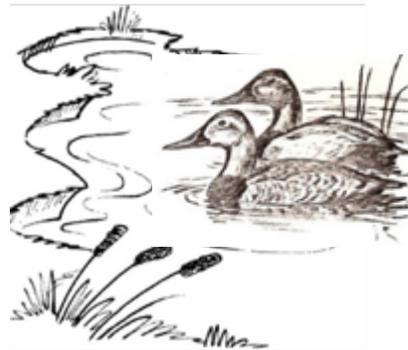
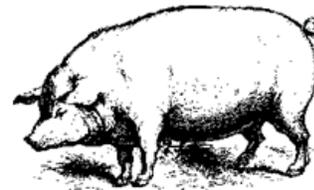
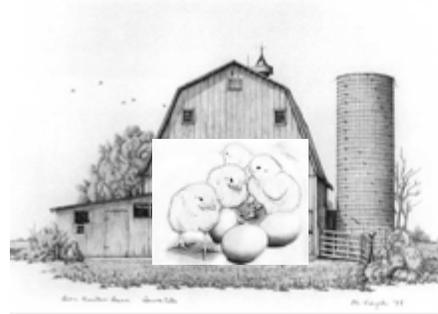
Add a question

Where is the cow?

The cow is between the horse and the sheep.

Make answers more complex

The cow is between the horse and the sheep and across from the pig.



Lesson 1 – Sharing & Questions

What questions or ideas would you like to share?

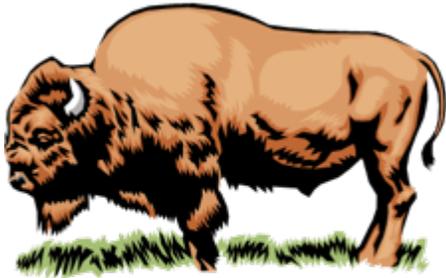


Lesson 2 – Amazing Animals

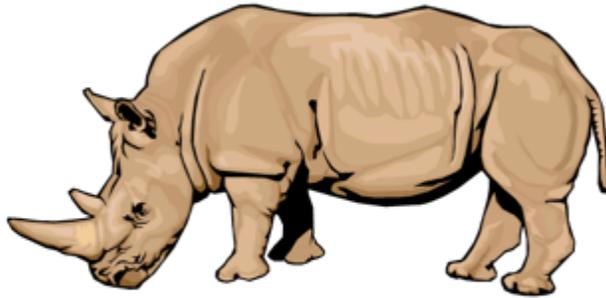
1. Introduce grammar in context
2. Complete fun grammar and writing exercises
3. Have discussions and make predictions
4. Do interactive reading jigsaws and relays
5. Introduce global and detailed listening activities
6. Explore high-interest writing and presentation assignments



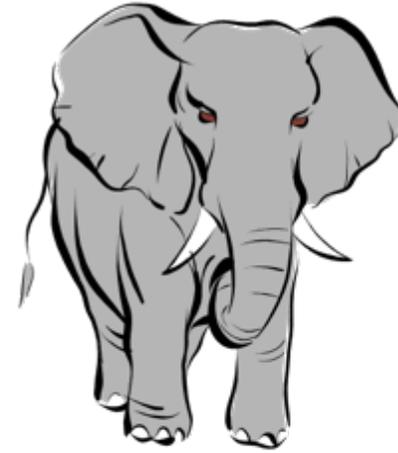
Lesson 2 – Grammar (Superlatives)



buffalo
big



rhinoceros
bigger



elephant
biggest

The buffalo is a *big* animal.

The rhinoceros is *bigger than* the buffalo.

The elephant is the *biggest* land animal.

Lesson 2 – Grammar (Superlatives)



corgi



pug



Chihuahua

The corgi is a *small* dog.

The pug is *smaller than* the corgi.

The Chihuahua is the *smallest* dog.

Lesson 2 – Grammar (Superlatives)

The	biggest smallest heaviest most dangerous	land animal dog frog bat	is	the	elephant Chihuahua goliath frog vampire bat
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The	elephant Chihuahua goliath frog vampire bat	is	the	biggest smallest heaviest most dangerous	land animal dog frog bat
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Lesson 2 – Grammar & Writing

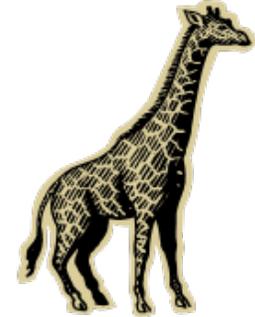
1. strong bird bald eagle

The strongest bird is the bald eagle.



2. giraffe tall animal

The giraffe is the tallest animal.



3. unusual animal duck-billed platypus



4. polar bear heavy bear



Lesson 2 – Grammar & Writing

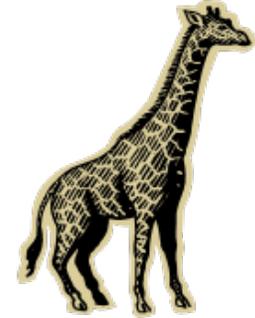
1. strong bird bald eagle

The strongest bird is the bald eagle.



2. giraffe tall animal

The giraffe is the tallest animal.



3. unusual animal duck-billed platypus

The most unusual animal is the duck-billed platypus.



4. polar bear heavy bear



Lesson 2 – Grammar & Writing

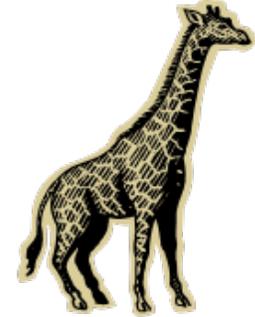
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The strongest bird is the bald eagle.



2. giraffe tall animal

The giraffe is the tallest animal.



3. unusual animal duck-billed platypus

The most unusual animal is the duck-billed platypus.



4. polar bear heavy bear

The polar bear is the heaviest bear.



Lesson 2 – Pre-Reading Discussion

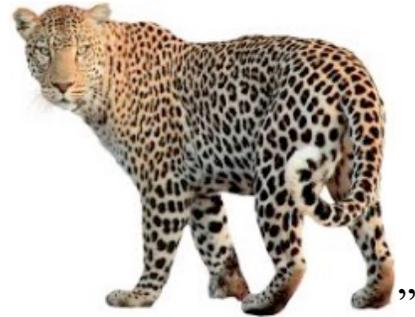
Do you like wild cats like lions, tigers, jaguars, and cheetahs?



Lion



Tiger



Jaguar



Cheetah



Kodkod



Bobcat

Lesson 2 – Pre-Reading Discussion

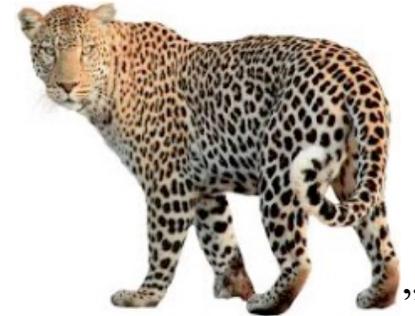
What do you think is the largest/smallest/fastest wild cat?



Lion



Tiger



Jaguar



Cheetah



Kodkod



Bobcat

Lesson 2 – Reading Jigsaw

Type of Cat	Where do they live?	Interesting Information
Largest:		
Smallest:		
Fastest:		

Lesson 2 – Reading Jigsaw

The **smallest** wild cat is the kodkod, which lives in the Andes Mountains in Chile and Argentina in South America.

Kodkods only weigh about 2 to 2.5 kilograms.

They have excellent eyesight and hearing.

Their favorite foods are birds and small rodents.

When they are in danger, they climb trees for safety.

Kodkods are rare, and there are only about 10,000 of them.



Lesson 2 – Reading Jigsaw

Type of Cat	Where do they live?	Interesting Information
Largest:		
Smallest: <i>Kodkod</i>	<i>Andes Mountains in South America</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1. Weigh only 2 to 2.5 kilograms</i><i>2. Excellent eyesight and hearing</i><i>3. Only 10,000 of them</i>
Fastest:		

Lesson 2 – Pre-Listening Discussion



ostrich



vulture



hummingbird



falcon

Which bird is the largest / smallest / fastest / highest flyer?

Lesson 2 – Global Listening

Listening for main ideas

	Ostrich	Vulture	Hummingbird	Falcon
Largest bird	✓			
Smallest bird			✓	
Fastest flyer				
Highest flyer				
Fastest runner	✓			
Smallest eggs				
Heaviest bird	✓			

Lesson 2 – Global Listening

Listening for main ideas

	Ostrich	Vulture	Hummingbird	Falcon
Largest bird	✓			
Smallest bird			✓	
Fastest flyer				
Highest flyer		✓		✓
Fastest runner	✓			
Smallest eggs			✓	
Heaviest bird	✓			

Lesson 2 – Detailed Listening

1. How fast can ostrich run?

- a. 17 kilometers per hour
- b. 70 kilometers per hour
- c. 170 kilometers per hour

2. What is true about hummingbirds?

- a. They can fly sideways and backwards.
- b. They can dive at speeds of 300 kilometers per hour.
- c. They can fly as fast as a car on the highway.

Lesson 2 – Reading Relay (Discussion)

SHARKS



1. Do you like sharks? Why or why not?
2. Are you afraid of sharks? Why or why not?
3. How many different kinds of sharks do you think there are?

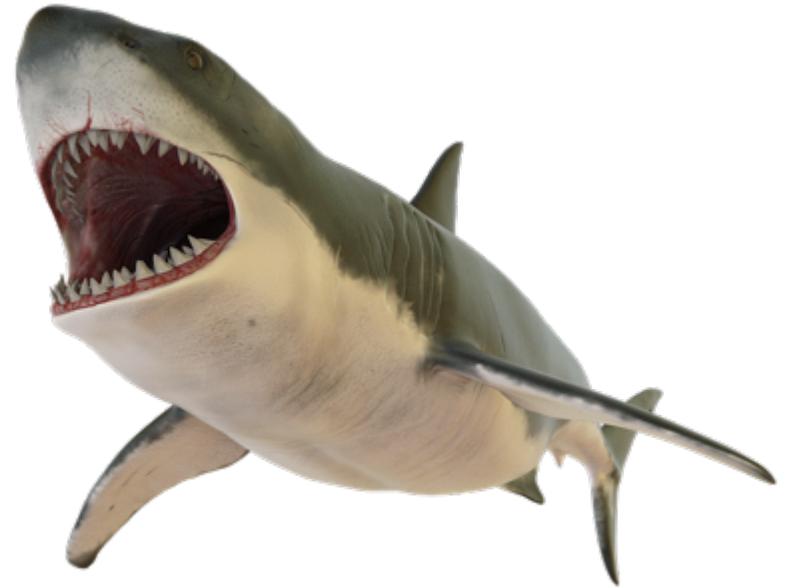
Lesson 2 – Reading Relay (Predictions)

1. How many different kinds of sharks are there?

- a. 25
- b. 150
- c. 500

2. What is the largest shark?

- a. Great white shark
- b. Whale shark
- c. Bull shark



Lesson 2 – Reading Relay

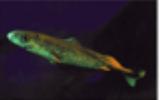
1. Divide class into small teams
2. Tape one copy of the article on the wall for each team
3. Take turns running to the wall to find the answers
4. Each team member needs to circle the answers
5. The fastest team with all correct answers wins



SHARKS

Some of the most interesting fish in the ocean are sharks. In some form, sharks have been around for about 400 million years, which is older than the dinosaurs, and there are about 500 kinds of sharks. Sharks have a lot of teeth, and they can actually grow and use up to 20,000 teeth in their lifetime.

The largest shark is called the whale shark, and it is also the largest fish. Whale sharks can be as big as 15 meters and weigh as much as 13,000 kilograms. Do you think that whale sharks are dangerous? Although they are very big, whale sharks only eat tiny animals that drift in the sea such as plankton, shrimp, and very small fish, and they are not dangerous to humans.



The smallest shark is the **spined** pygmy shark. It is only about 18 to 21 centimeters long. It is **luminescent**, which means it glows in the dark, and it lives in cold, deep oceans.

The most dangerous shark is the great white shark. Great white sharks grow up to four meters long, and they have **razor-sharp** teeth which they use for eating their prey. Great white sharks are **carnivores**, or meat eaters, and they eat fish, dolphins, seals, and sea lions. Great white sharks occasionally attack people, usually surfers, but attacks are rare.



The fastest shark is the Mako shark. Mako sharks can swim 70 kilometers per hour, which is very fast! They can also leap out of the water, and they sometimes land in boats.



One of the most interesting sharks is the hammerhead shark. Look at the picture. Hammerhead sharks have a head that looks like a hammer, and their eyes and nostrils (noses) are much farther apart than other sharks. This allows them to sense their prey much better than other sharks.

As you can see, sharks are fascinating creatures, and there are many different kinds of sharks.

Lesson 2 – Reading Relay (Predictions)

1. How many different kinds of sharks are there?

a. 25

b. 150

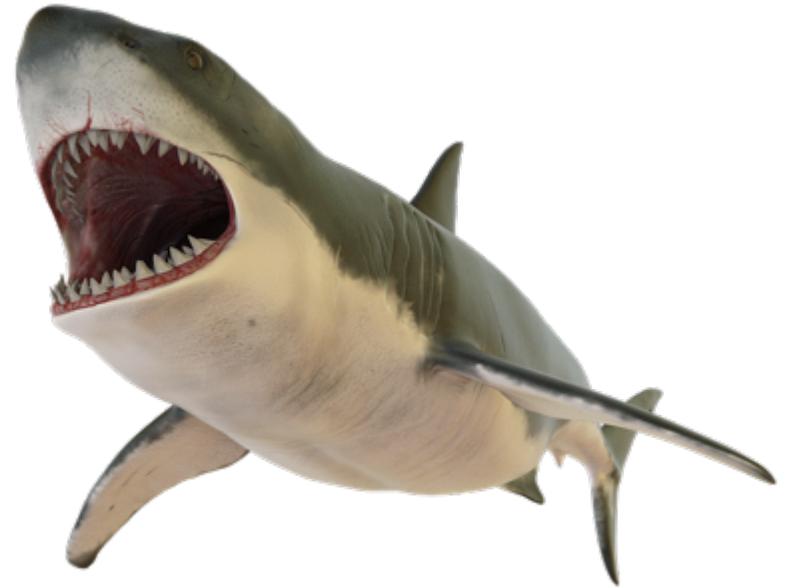
c. 500

2. What is the largest shark?

a. Great white shark

b. Whale shark

c. Bull shark



Lesson 2 – Reading Relay (Predictions)

1. How many different kinds of sharks are there?

a. 25

b. 150

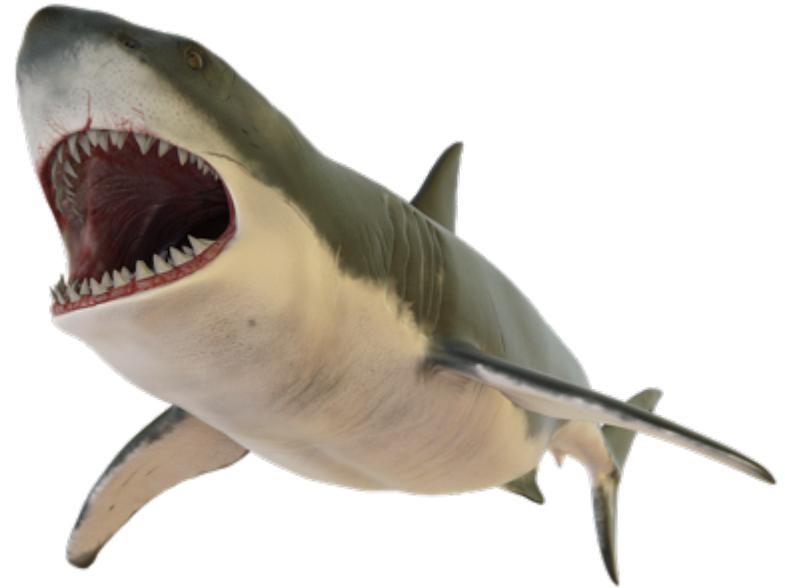
c. 500

2. What is the largest shark?

a. Great white shark

b. Whale shark

c. Bull shark



Lesson 2 – Writing & Presentations

1. Students choose a **type** of animal that interests them
Examples: bears, dogs, turtles, snakes, bats, etc.
2. They choose **three** superlatives, such as **largest**, **smallest**, **most dangerous**, and then write each species on their worksheet corresponding to the superlative
3. They then write where each species lives plus three interesting facts
4. Finally, they use this information for writing, presentations, or both



Lesson 2 – Writing & Presentations

Type of animal: _____

Choose three superlatives (largest, smallest, fastest, etc):

- Largest: _____
 - Where they live: _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Smallest: _____
 - Where they live: _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Most dangerous: _____



Lesson 2 – Writing & Presentations

Type of animal: Snakes

Choose three superlatives (largest, smallest, fastest, etc):

- Largest: Green anaconda
 - Where they live: South America
 - Can weigh 550 kilograms
 - Spend most of their time in the water
 - Kill their prey by squeezing or crushing it
- Smallest: Barbados threadsnake
- Where they live: _____
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- Most dangerous: Inland taipan



Summing up

Today, we learned that...

- challenges associated with combining all of the skills can be overcome.
- listening, speaking, reading, writing and grammar can be successfully integrated into fun and engaging lessons.
- activities can be adapted to different contexts and levels.
- student motivation and learning will be enhanced.

References

- Bruhn, Dieter, *TEFL Certificate Program*, One World Training, 2019.
- Unless otherwise noted, all images in this presentation are CC0/public domain from pixabay.com or the author's own.

Thank you!

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Reflection and Discussion Questions

1. If you have previously taught an integrated skills lesson, please describe your experience.
2. Now that you're ready to use the ideas from this webinar, what are some of the challenges you might face in your context? Brainstorm how you might successfully manage those challenges.
3. What are some of the benefits your students will gain from integrated skills lessons?
4. Discuss how you might adapt the lessons learned today to best meet the needs of your students.



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