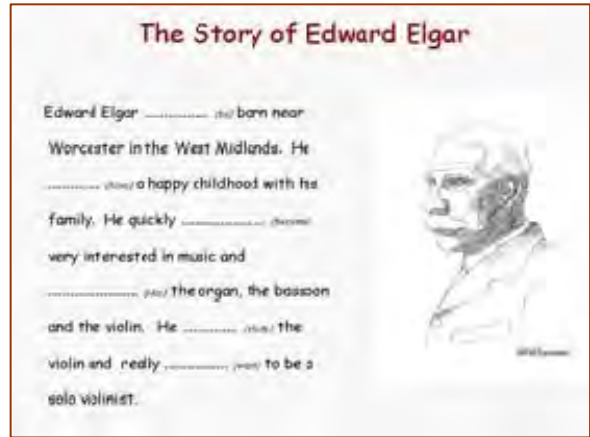


ESOL Reading & Writing ideas: Sir Edward Elgar theme

These teaching notes accompany a separate PowerPoint cloze activity (pictured right) – also available on www.skillsworkshop.org

Aims can include

- reinforce regular and irregular verbs and their simple past forms
- enhance cultural awareness (life story of a famous British composer, and knowledge of the BBC Proms season)
- improve awareness of British currency
- improve knowledge of British geography
- provide opportunities for map work and internet research



Entry Level 2 upwards

(The extension activities provide freer reading / writing opportunities for Levels 1 and 2)

Note for tutor: provide publishers' 'verb spinners' if possible.

Schemata activation: could be introduced by playing some of Elgar's music for example from YouTube where there are excerpts from his most famous pieces:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxqFdcZz974> (video of Elgar conducting)

<http://www.last.fm/music/Sir+Edward+Elgar> (part of his Enigma Variations)

This one is rather long at 6 minutes but it could be linked to The Last Night of The Proms in September <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moL4MkJ-aLk&NR=1>

The Elgar £20 note went into phase-out in 2007 so they are rarer now. However, this Bank of England leaflet "Take a Close Look – Know Your Banknotes" pdf file is helpful.

http://www.bankofengland.co.uk/banknotes/kyb_lo_res.pdf

Elicit their knowledge (if any) of Elgar. Do they know any British composers?

Looking at his clothing and moustache, get them to guess his lifespan dates. (1857-1934)

Pre-teach vocabulary

For E2 level the words below might be appropriate to pre-teach

childhood	Bassoon
desire	compose (music)
organ	Violin
become	

Pictures of the instruments might be good.

Extension activities

Writing – E2 learners copy out the whole article in their own hand, adding images of Elgar, Worcester, etc obtained from the internet.

Level 1 Reading & Writing – learners plan a (day) trip to Worcester, with costings. To include a visit to Elgar's birthplace (the website also has good images of the Elgar £20 note).

http://www.elgarfoundation.org/contact_fr.htm

Reading for L1/L2 – the above website contains an excellent "Who is Elgar?" article