

2.21

Jokes

Focus	To start the lesson in a fun, relaxed way.
Level	Elementary and above
Time	3-5 minutes
Preparation	Make a slide, or handout of a list of jokes (see sample below). You'll need to find jokes that are fairly simple to understand.

in class

- 1 Place a handout on each student's desk/chair before they come into the classroom.
- 2 Invite the students to read the jokes and to evaluate them from *funniest to least funny*.
- 3 Ask them to work in pairs and discuss their ideas.
- 4 Have the group vote for the funniest joke.

Sample jokes/aphorisms

- 1 *The lion and the calf will lie down together but the calf won't be getting much sleep. (Woody Allen)*
- 2 *As long as there are tests, there will be prayers in school.*
- 3 **Q:** *How do you count cows?* **A:** *With a cowculator.*
- 4 *I've been happily married for four years - out of a total of ten. (Mark Watson)*
- 5 *I was vegan for a while. I lost six pounds, but most of that was personality. (Pippa Evans)*
- 6 *A man got hit in the head with a can of Coke, but he was alright because it was a soft drink.*

Comment

I've often found humour is an excellent tool to anchor the students' concentration.