

6.11

Learning from stories

THINKING in the EFL Class – Tessa Woodward – Helbling Languages

Aspects of stories

Contexts

Where and when does the story take place?
Who is in it?
What is the relationship between the characters?
What do the characters feel, think, believe and do, and
Who has power in the story?

Temporal order

What happened at the beginning, in the middle and at the end?
What happened before the story started?
What will happen now it's over?

Particular events

What happened?
Why?
What could have/should have happened?

Intentions

What does X believe / want / want others to think?
What reasons would X give?
What does X hope will happen?

Choices

What is the key moment in the story?
What choices have to be made?
Who has to make the choice?
What could they do?
What would you do?
Did they make the right choice?

Meanings

What is the story about?
Can you think of another title for it?
What does the story tell us?
What is the message / moral of the story?
How is it like / unlike other stories?

The telling

Was there anything special about the story?
Was it well told?
Could you tell this story in a different way?
How would you change the characters or events?