

<u>Lesson No.</u>	004
<u>Name:</u>	Creativity
<u>Skills:</u>	Speaking and listening
<u>Level:</u>	Intermediate, upper intermediate, advanced

## **Teacher's Notes**

<u>Materials</u>	Pictures, handouts For the marshmallow challenge: spaghetti, marshmallows, string, tape
<u>Preparation</u>	Photocopy handouts

### **STEP BY STEP**

- Show the students the two pictures (dinosaurs and lunchbox). Depending on the facilities available, you can give a copy to each pair of students or put the image onto interactive white board. Give students a few minutes to discuss what they think the story behind image is. Elicit answers from the whole class and initiate a brief class discussion.
- Tell the students that they are going to find out the story behind one of the pictures. Number students 1,2,3,4. Students 1-2 will find out about the dinosaur picture and students 3-4 will find out about the lunchbox. Give students the corresponding handouts. Inform them that the text contains information about the picture, but there are lines missing. Students must read the text line by line to their partner, alternating according, while their partner writes down what they hear. Stress that they must not show each other the text, as this exercise tests their listening comprehension and pronunciation skills.
- Once students have finished reading out and writing down the texts, they compare versions to check that they have written the correct words and spelling.
- Put students into groups of four so that students 1&2 and 3&4 are working together. Ask the students to exchange information about each picture, so that students find out about the other picture.
- Discuss the pictures as a whole class. Example discussion questions: Was the story behind the picture what you expected? Do you think that the actions of the parents had the desired effect?, etc. Show the students other examples of the two initiatives.

- Elicit from students that these are two examples of creativity. Ask students if they are creative and whether they can give any examples of times they were creative.
- Write “creativity is...” on the board. Ask students to write their own version of creativity in pairs. Elicit their definitions in whole class.
- Inform students that an IBM poll once found that creativity is the most important leadership skill. Ask them to discuss in pairs why they think this is and then elicit answers from the whole class.
- Tell students that you are now going to test their creativity and teamwork skills. Put students into groups of four. Write marshmallow, string, tape and spaghetti on the board or show pictures. Tell students they have two minutes to come up with some ideas for products they could make using these materials. Elicit as a group.
- Inform students that they will be carrying out the marshmallow challenge (<http://marshmallowchallenge.com>) . Write the rules on the board:
  - 1 marshmallow, 1 yard of string, 1 yard of tape, 20 sticks of spaghetti
  - 18 minutes
  - 4 people
  - 1 tower
- Explain that teams have exactly 18 minutes to create the tallest, freestanding tower using the ingredients and that the marshmallow must be on top. Set a timer (if you have an interactive whiteboard, it’s a nice idea to use an online stopwatch as a visual for students) and remind students that they must speak in English for the whole of the challenge. You can put on some background music for the challenge, however you also need to be able to monitor students speaking and make notes of any common errors to work on later, so you may decide that music will interfere with this. Circulate the room, monitoring students speaking and team working skills.
- Once the eighteen minutes are up, check the structures and declare the winner. The prize can be chocolate or simply just a round of applause from the whole class!
- To finish up the lesson, ask students to do some reflection on the challenge. This can be done individually, in pairs or in their groups. Example reflection questions: what difficulties did you face? How well did you work as a team? Etc.
- Optional homework: Ask students to watch the TED talk on [marshmallowchallenge.com](http://marshmallowchallenge.com) and ask them to summarise the main points of the talk. Or task them with coming up with an outline for their own design challenge!



**Dinovember**

Jurassic Park probably had most parents trying to reassure their startled children that dinosaurs

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But for one couple, attempting to convince their daughters that their house is invaded by a group of

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While the children sleep, Refe Tuma and his wife arrange their toy dinosaurs in a range of life-like poses.

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and scrawling on the wall with crayons.

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After the eggs incident, the children were heard to mutter: 'Mom and Dad are not going to like this.'

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their sense of wonder and imagination. In a time when the answers to all the world's questions are a

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energy, creativity, and a few plastic dinosaurs.

(Adapted from <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2507305/Dinovembers-toy-dinosaurs-come-life-creative-parents-spark-web-craze.html> [15/05/14])

**Dinovember**

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weren't set to rampage into the living room.

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the prehistoric creatures every night has become a yearly ritual

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They have woken to find them enjoying a jamming session, raiding a cereal box and the fruit bowl

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Other antics have included helping themselves to a carton of eggs, causing havoc with a toilet roll and smashing a vase.

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He said: 'Why do we do this? Because in the age of iPads and Netflix, we don't want our kids to lose

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web-search away, we want our kids to experience a little mystery. All it takes is some time and

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## Amazing Eats

Her six-year-old son turned his nose up at sandwiches and sticks of carrot.

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Now he cannot wait to open his packed lunch every day and tuck into his favourite characters.

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fashions snails from a bread roll decorated with cheese for eyes, carrots carved into flowers and a

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Although this may sound like a lot of time and effort, Grace says they can suit mums in a hurry as

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Grace insists that she enjoys the daily tasks and has turned a potential chore into something she

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Rather than buying special ingredients, Grace just keeps a good variety of fresh fruit and

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Leftovers such as spare tortilla wraps or potatoes from a dinner are put to good use in the

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It comes as no surprise that staff at Grace's son's school said they loved seeing what was in his

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(Adapted from: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/food/article-2610244/Packed-lunches-look-good-eat-Creative-mother-turns-picky-sons-lunchboxes-works-art.html> [15/05/2014] )

## Amazing Eats

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So Grace Hall transformed them into aliens, elephants and superheroes.

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With the help of a few cutters and moulds, former accountant Mrs Hall

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cheese and ham toastie that looks like a pig.

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she never spends more than 15 minutes creating the lunches.

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looks forward to doing. She has even misses her creations during school holidays.

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vegetables in the house, making the lunches healthy for her son.

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lunchboxes, and sweets and crisps are kept to a minimum.

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daily lunch box and they have inspired parents at the school gate to follow her lead.

(Adapted from: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/femail/food/article-2610244/Packed-lunches-look-good-eat-Creative-mother-turns-picky-sons-lunchboxes-works-art.html> [15/05/2014] )

Pictures available at: <http://eatsamazing.co.uk/>





Pictures available at: <http://dinovember.tumblr.com/>





