

On the Meridian of Time

Level: Advanced

Topic: Art and Style

Key vocabulary: Bilingual lists in PDF and boxes (teachers can download this material from the online version of the magazine)

Preparation: 1. A copy of the article for each student. 2. Photographs taken from the article.

Objective: Students learn about artistic appreciation and vocabulary to describe photography.

Warm up

Show students some photographs from the article. You can do this using a projector. Ask your students to describe the pictures they see, what they see in the pictures, how they feel about the images. This activity is helpful to review adjectives.

Main activity

1. Pre-teach the new vocabulary for describing photographs. You can download the thematic list from the magazine website: contrast, balance, contour, composition, value, texture, light, theme, subject, content, intention. Tell students all these words are nouns.
2. Make students work with a dictionary to find the meaning for these words. Encourage them to use a monolingual dictionary instead of an English-Spanish dictionary.
3. Ask them to share their definitions with the class and as a class get the right meaning for the context, which is photography.
4. Have a little discussion about photography: do they like it, do they enjoy seeing photographs, do they prefer taking them, and do they like taking pictures of people or objects. This is a great opportunity to correct mistakes students make when they are speaking.
5. Give each student a copy of the article.
6. Allow some time for silent reading and ask them to underline or highlight words that are unknown.



7. You can always prepare a handout with comprehension questions but this time we recommend that you enjoy the article with the students by sharing and exploring the connections that art has beyond the classroom.

Follow up

1. As a follow up activity you can ask your students to bring one or two of their favorite pictures and share them with the class.
2. Allow some time to explain why they chose the pictures they brought and what is the significance or influence the picture has in their lives.
3. Encourage your students to make comments on the pictures by using the vocabulary they have learnt to describe photography. Make them talk about the texture, light, subject, composition, and so on.
4. If possible, and as a reward for the good work, you can plan a field trip to a gallery.

At www.teatime-mag.com your students can read the article presented in this lesson as well as many more that feature attractive and motivating designs, as well as pictures that make reading easier and more appealing. They can also listen to the articles as they read and download the audio version in mp3 format for free.

