

## Simple Past Tense Lesson: Message in a Bottle

**Grade and Level:** Middle School (Grade 7-9)

**ESL level:** 2-2.5

**Class time:** 2/40min classes.

**Objective:** To engage students in practicing their knowledge of the simple past tense forms of words in an applied way, and then completing a written activity to demonstrate their understanding.

Time	Outline	Students	Teacher
10mins	Simple past tense review	<p>Read sentences on the board and think pair share about what words are used in the simple past tense. E.g.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Violet <u>kicked</u> the ball hard.</li> <li>2. Felix <u>went</u> and <u>looked</u> for the lost treasure.</li> </ol> <p>Students call out words in the simple past tense form for the teacher to write on the board.</p>	<p>On the board write sentences with the simple past tense.</p> <p>Instruct students to think pair share about the words that are in the simple past tense form.</p> <p>Underline the students' answers in the sentences.</p> <p>Ask students to call out words using the past simple tense form and write a list on the board. E.g. moved, saw, put, cut, took etc.</p>
30mins	What would you do if...	<p>Individually students think about what they would do if they were stranded on a deserted island. (They can take notes to help them remember.)</p> <p>In pairs students share what they would do on the island and tell the story in simple past tense form.</p>	<p>Ask students to imagine they are stranded on a deserted island. Ask them to think about what they would do. E.g. What would you eat? Where would you sleep? Would you try to escape?</p> <p>Ask students in pairs to share what they did on the island with their</p>

Linsie Kolshuk

[www.mskolshuk.com](http://www.mskolshuk.com)

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			partner using the simple past tense form.
40mins	Message in a Bottle Activity	Individually students are given a handout with the start of a story already written in simple past tense and blank lines where the rest of the story will be written. They are to complete the story according to the comic/pictures on the screen, continuing to use the past simple tense.	<p>Introduce activity and put comic/pictures on the classroom screen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A bottle has been found with the start of a journal and pictures inside. Write the rest of the journal based on what the pictures show.</li> </ul> <p>Circulate and provide support as needed.</p> <p>Review student's work as they finish.</p>
<b>Extension Lesson</b> of 20+mins.	Podcast Reading	Students make a recording of their story that will be made into an MP3 file.	Teacher supports students to make a podcasts; computer room, classroom computer etc.

**Assessment:**

<b>Message in a Bottle Grading</b>	
<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Past simple tense words have been used and underlined to show your understanding.	
The journal has been completed with all pictures included in the story.	
The journal was neatly written and could be understood.	
Podcast included the whole journal and could be clearly understood.	
	<b>/16</b>

0-Missing

1-Needs more work

2-Good start

3-Well done

4Excellent

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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