



Level: B1

SHOP OF DREAMS

Teaching point: Reading

Theme: Marriage, Hopes

Activity: Describing
a picture, Interpreting
a poem

For this activity, you need a projector to show the image to the class, or access to a colour printer or photocopier so that students can get a copy of the image, individually or to share.

PROCEDURE

1. Tell the students that they will see a picture for two minutes and they should try to remember as much about it as possible.
2. Project the picture (or let them look at the prints) and then switch it off and elicit as much information as possible. Help with vocabulary. Here are some questions you could ask:
 - What could you see in the window of the shop? (curtains? wedding dresses?)
 - What was the weather like? (Grey, cloudy)
 - Were there any people? (yes, a person/girl walking in front of the shop, a woman looking out of the window of the flat above)
 - Were there any cars/vehicles? (yes, there's a green car, a red van and some more vehicles in the distance)
 - Was the sign of the shop in English? (no, it's Polish)
 - What else could you see? (trees, buildings, windows, steps, street sign...)
3. Show the picture again. Tell the students they will hear a poem. Ask them to listen and say how it is connected to the picture. Read out the poem (or play the audio).
Suggested answer:
Shop on the corner; wedding dresses; girl by the door; woman at the window
4. Give out the worksheet. Verse 2 is from the point of view of the girl. Verse 3 is from the point of view of the woman. And verses 1 and 4 seem to give the 'point of view' of the dresses.
Ask students to read the poem and say what the 3 points of view are.
Suggested ideas:
The girl: she's not married and she's too busy to think about it, but one day she probably will get married.
The woman: she got married a long time ago, but now the excitement has gone and she feels lonely.
The dresses: nobody wants them right now, but it's just a matter of time. When the time comes, they will only have one day of glory before they are put away.

Painting and poem by Mark Hancock

SHOP OF DREAMS



A shop in Wrocław, Poland

SHOP OF DREAMS

There's a shop on the corner
 There are dresses inside
 You can see them in the windows
 Waiting for a bride

There's a girl by the door
 She hurries on her way
 She doesn't go inside
 Today is not the day

There's a woman at the window
 Dreaming of her life
 Once a happy a bride
 Now a lonely wife

There's a shop on the corner
 With dresses long and white
 They're waiting for a special day
 Before a wedding night