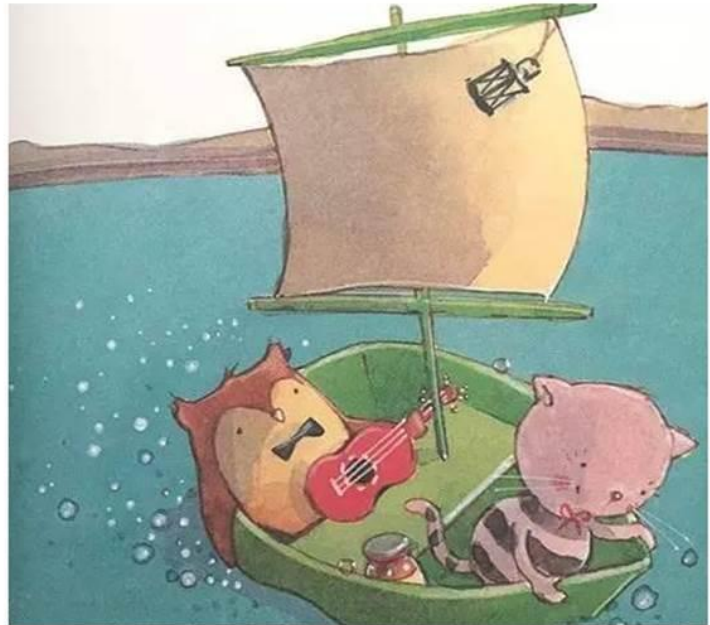


Degree Show 2021

Ning Tang

**English Language Learning and
Applied Linguistics MA**

Teaching English through Literature



THE OWL AND THE PUSSY-CAT

There are several advantages of using literary texts for language teaching. For example, literature is valuable authentic material that provides a full and vivid context in which the language is used, and literature can be helpful in the language learning process due to the personal involvement of the readers (Collie & Slater, 1987). A 50-minute English session using the poem 'The Owl and the Pussy-cat' by Edward Lear (1871) as learning material is designed for upper-intermediate international adult learners.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

By the end of this lesson:

- Have learned some new vocabulary
- Have a brief idea about rhyme
- Have been introduced to the concept of nonsense poem



WARM-UP

Listen to the song and try to find the answers to the following questions.

- Who are the main characters in the song?
- How is their relationship?

<https://music.163.com/#/song?id=3551767&autoplay=true&market=baiduhd>



VOCABULARY

Match the pictures with the words.

owl



pussy-cat



elegant



charmingly



tarried



piggy-wig



shilling



mince



quince



runcible spoon



READING

A rhyme /raɪm/ is a repetition of similar sounds (usually, exactly the same sound) in the final stressed syllables and any following syllables of two or more words. Most often, this kind of perfect rhyming is consciously used for artistic effect in the final position of lines within poems or songs.

(Wikipedia)

- Read the poem. Discuss with your partners and try to find rhyming words.

honey / money
married / tarried
wood / stood
away / day
hand / sand

owl / fow
away / a day
willing / shilling
mince / quince



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- "The Owl and the Pussy-cat" is a nonsense poem by Edward Lear, first published in 1871.
(Poetry Foundation)
- Nonsense poems are poems that intentionally don't make a lot of sense. Some use made-up words, while others contradict themselves or use language in random or unusual ways.
(Young Poets Networks)



SPEAKING

What aspects described in the poem do you find are different from your culture?

- Ring: Do you have to have a ring when you are getting married?
- Christmas: Do you celebrate Christmas in your country? Are there any special food for Christmas?



HOMEWORK

- Answer the Socrative quiz.



- Write a 150 words blog about an animal you like.

