

# LESSON PLAN

## 1/5



## THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

### Aim:

- to develop reading skills and expand vocabulary
- to predict the continuation of a story
- to identify a literary genre
- to encourage the pleasure of reading

### Expansive Reading Theme: USA vs UK: More Modern or More Traditional?

This cross-curricular feature allows students to explore the historical background, cultural connections and other topics of the dossiers or the text.

### Level:

Teenagers B1.2

### Time:

60 minutes

### Material:

1. front cover illustration of the graded reader *The Canterville Ghost*
2. worksheet—Parts 1 and 2

### INTRODUCTION

This lesson plan introduces Oscar Wilde's entertaining ghost story, *The Canterville Ghost*, published in 1887. The short extract chosen will draw students into the plot, encourage them to ask questions, develop their vocabulary, delve into the unusual characters of the ghost story, and predict what could happen next. With the special feature, the Expansive Reading Theme, students will enjoy exploring the topics of the dossiers and the text, with their cross-curricular approach. All of this with the aim of increasing their pleasure in reading a famous and entertaining ghost story.

### BACKGROUND NOTES ON THE STORY

Sir Simon's ghost had haunted Canterville Chase for centuries, and scared away everyone who had lived there. But when a rich American family with four children buy the house, Sir Simon is in for a shock! All kinds of unusual adventures take place in this wonderful ghost story, and there's a surprise ending!

### DISCUSSION AND PREDICTION

At this point there are some questions that need to be answered.

1. Why is Sir Simon's ghost haunting Canterville Chase?
2. Did the American family know about the Ghost before buying the house?
3. How will the American family react to the Ghost?



level  
B1.2

## LESSON PLAN 2/5



### PROCEDURE

#### Before the lesson:

make a copy of the worksheet, Part 1 and Part 2 (one for each student)

- tell your students that you're going to be speaking about a book called *The Canterville Ghost*
- read the background notes on the story to the class

#### Step 1 (10 minutes)

Ask the students to comment on their first impressions and ask them these questions:

- What genre do you think it is?
- Have you read any other book by Oscar Wilde?
- Show the students the cover illustration and ask them these questions:
  - Describe the ghost on the front cover.
  - Why is he holding a candle?

#### Step 2 (30 minutes)

Give students the worksheet, Part 1, and explain that the text comes from the chapter *The Terrible Twins*.

Ask them to read the extract. You could read it out loud to make it more dramatic.

Ask students to read it alone or in pairs for a more detailed understanding.

Ask them to do **Activity 1**, Comprehension. Then ask them to work in pairs to check their answers. (KEY: 1 f, 2 t, 3 t, 4 f, 5 t, 6 f, 7 t.)

Ask students to comment with opinions, predictions, feelings and observations.

#### Step 3 – (20 minutes)

#### **THEME: USA vs UK: More Modern or More Traditional?**

Tell your students that the purpose of this theme is to make them part of “cross-curricular learning”; to compare and connect what happened in the past to what is happening in today’s world. Their comments and opinions are the backbone of this kind of learning.

Ask them to read Part 2 and do the activity.

If there is no time in class, this activity can be done as written homework.

