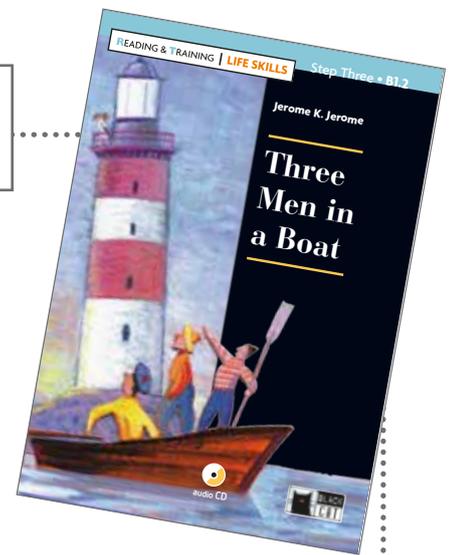


# LESSON PLAN

## 1/4



### THREE MEN IN A BOAT

- Aim:**
- to develop reading skills and expand vocabulary
  - to practice speaking skills – giving opinions
  - to predict the continuation of a story
  - to identify a literary genre
  - to encourage the pleasure of reading
- Level:** Teenagers and adults – B1.2
- Time:** 50-60 minutes
- Materials:**
1. front cover illustration of the graded reader **THREE MEN IN A BOAT**
  2. worksheet

#### INTRODUCTION

Traveling equates with freedom—the freedom to go and see different places and different people—a fabulous learning experience! This lesson plan introduces **Three Men in a Boat**, an adventurous and humorous story about three good friends and their dog, who decide to take a trip together. The short extracts chosen will draw students into the plot, encourage them to ask questions, develop their vocabulary and predict what will happen next. All of this with the aim of increasing their pleasure in reading.

#### BACKGROUND NOTES ON THE STORY

George, Harris and J live and work in London in the late 1800s. They are good friends and often meet to talk about their health, which is never very good. They complain about all sorts of problems: headaches, backaches, stomach aches, tiredness. Some of their illnesses are real, but most of them are imaginary. J has a lively dog called Montmorency, who always gets into trouble.

One evening they sit in J's comfortable living room and talk about their illnesses, until they finally decide to take a holiday together and travel. But they don't know where to go! It is difficult to reach a decision because they all like different things; and Montmorency has his own ideas about a good holiday. Harris doesn't want to get bored, but J wants a quiet place with no people. George likes to sleep a lot!

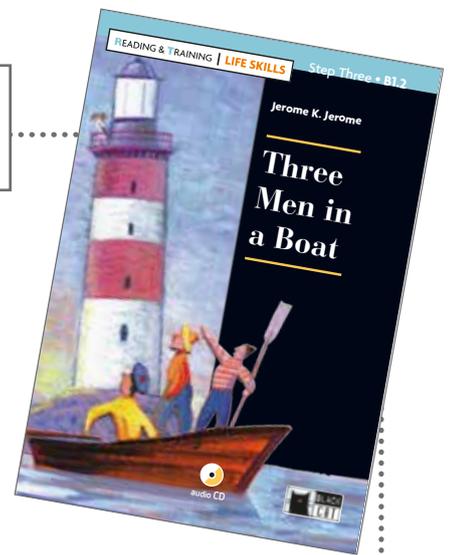
**DISCUSSION** – At this point there are some questions that need to be answered.

1. Can these three friends, who like different things, take a holiday together?
2. Will they get along during the holiday or will they argue?
3. Who will decide *where* to go and why?
4. How will Montmorency behave during this holiday?



# LESSON PLAN

## 2/4



### PROCEDURE

Before the lesson:

- make a copy of the worksheet (one per student)
- download a photo of a British river and countryside
- tell your students you're going to be speaking about a book called **Three Men in a Boat**
- read the background notes on the story to the class and tell them that the narrator of the story is J, one of the characters. Therefore, the story is in the first person

### First Step (10 minutes)

Ask your students to comment on their impressions and ask them these questions.

- What genre do you think it is? Why?

Show the students the cover illustration and ask them these questions.

1. Where are the three men?
2. Why are they looking at the lighthouse?
3. What do you think they are saying?

### Second Step (30 minutes)

Give students the worksheet and explain that the text comes from Chapter One of the story.

- Ask them to do **Exercise 1**, *Before you read*.

[KEY: 1c, 2d, 3a, 4e, 5b, 6f]

- Read **Exercise 2**, *Extract Part 1*. You could read it out loud to make the dialogue more dramatic.

– Then ask the students to read it one or in pairs for a more detailed understanding the second time.

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

- Ask students to read **Exercise 3**, *Extract Part 2*.

### Last Step (10 minutes)

#### **Exercise 4 and 5**

These exercises can be done in pairs or in small groups. If there is no time in class, these exercises can be done for homework.

