British Council

Teaching English

A **Narrative context** lesson: The Class is the Story

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Session objectives

By the end of the webinar, we will have:

- explored why context is so important for learning.

- understood the lesson framework of a narrative context class.

- experienced a demo lesson using a framework of narrative context.

Lesson objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will have

- listened for specific information

- practiced speaking for fluency

in the context of endangered animals.

Framework of a Narrative Context Lesson

All stories follow a similar pattern:

- Establish characters

- Introduce a problem to solve

- Characters go off on an adventure to solve the problem

- The problem is resolved with a happy ending

STAGE 1: Pre-Task Discussion

Research Task: Find information about endangered animals.

In class discussion: What do you already know about endangered animals?

STAGE 2: Setting up the context and establishing the characters

Meet RAMBO the Rhino!

Role play – Wildlife Scientist

What you need:

Let's find out!

- Why are they endangered?

- What are the solutions?

- How can we help save RAMBO's friends?

STAGE 3: Pre-teaching Vocabulary

A

B

C

1. poaching   2. extinct   3. endangered

A

B

C

2. extinct
poaching

3. endangered

1.

STAGE 4: Listening Task 1

Let's find out!

- Why are they endangered?

Video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRGQ9Lx0WuM

STAGE 5: Listening Task 2

Let's find out!

- Why are they endangered? ✔

- What are the solutions?

Let's find out!

- Why are they endangered? ✓

- What are the solutions? ✓

- How can we help save RAMBO's friends?

How can we help RAMBO save his friends?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRGQ9Lx0WuM

Useful Language

shouldn't ...

Ex:

We **shouldn't** hunt endangered animals.

We **should** punish the poachers.

Written Record – Scaffolded Learning

Why are they endangered?	What are the solutions?	How can we help RAMBO's friends?
• killed for h_ _ _ _ _ • p_ _ _ _ _ _ (illegal hunting) • humans c _ _ _ _ _ _ down forests - Rhinos have no place to live and are unable to find water or food.	• _ _ _ _ hunting • punish poachers/hunters • s_ _ _ _ _ the word among others to protect rhinos	• We ………. (should/shouldn't) punish the poachers. • ……………………. • …………………….

Written Record – Answers

Why are they endangered?	What are the solutions?	How can we help RAMBO's friends?
• killed for horns • Poaching (illegal hunting) • humans cutting down forests - Rhinos have no place to live and are unable to find water or food.	• stop hunting • punish poachers/hunters • spread the word among others to protect rhinos	• We should punish the poachers. • We shouldn't cut down trees. • We should create posters and videos to spread the word among friends.

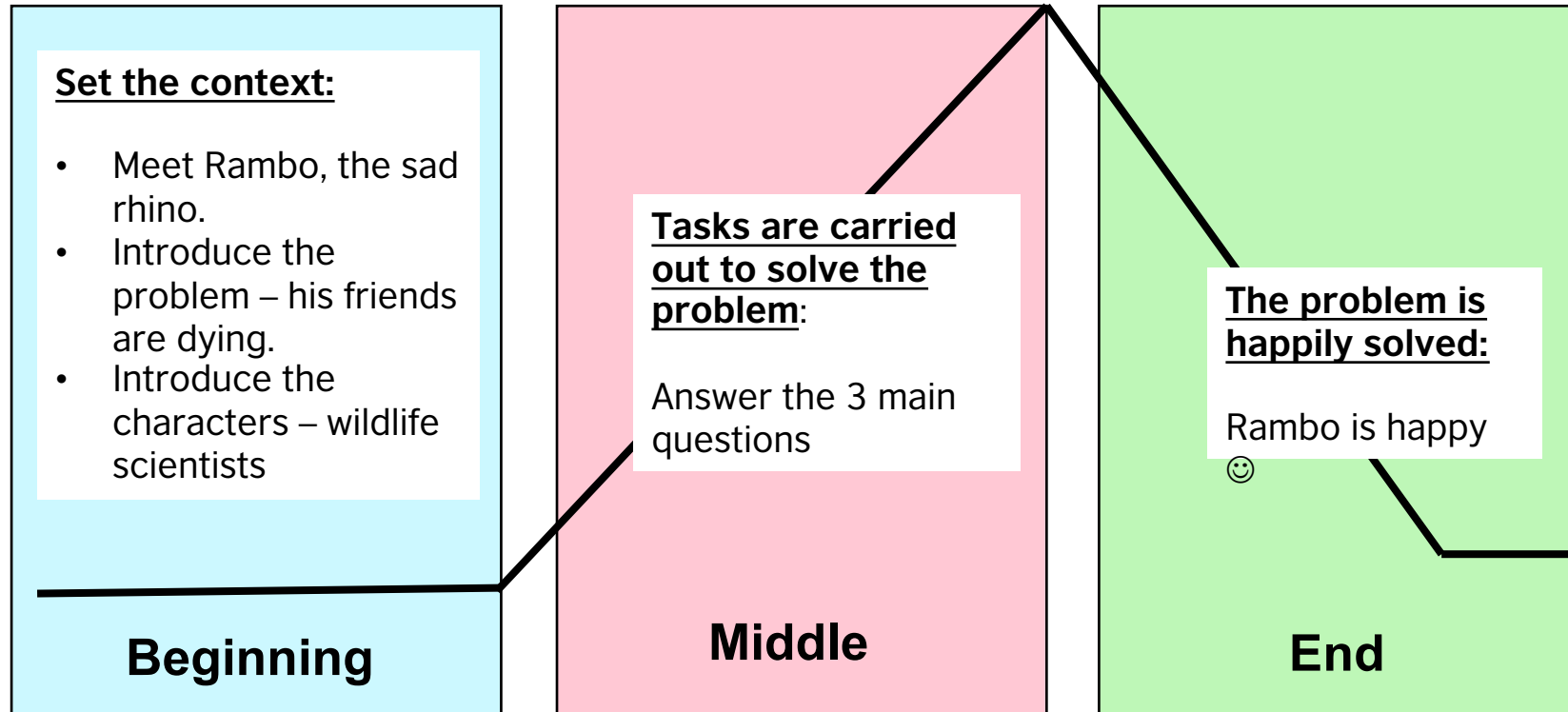# STAGE 7: Happy Ending

RAMBO is happy!

STAGE 8: Extension Tasks

Students can also carry out various projects (PBL) as extension tasks:

- Poster presentation

- Videos

- Creative writing: poems, stories, songs

- Design an awareness programme

https://mobile.twitter.com/babyrhinorescue

nt-black-kids-recording-video-for-vlog-

Summary: The Lesson Framework

Set the context:

- Meet Rambo, the sad rhino.
- Introduce the problem – his friends are dying.
- Introduce the characters – wildlife scientists

Beginning

Tasks are carried out to solve the problem:

Answer the 3 main questions

Middle

The problem is happily solved:

Rambo is happy ☺

End

Advantages of adding context to your lesson planning

- It provides a framework which mimics how learning naturally takes place.

- It provides engagement value.

- Rather than grading language excessively a 'language rich' class means linguistic meaning can be passively recognized through repeated exposure to the contextualization.

- Motivates every learner in the classroom.

- Increases the confidence and enthusiasm levels of students.

- Enhances interest in long-term goals and education.

Hints and Tips

- Jump in with both feet!

- Use costumes, props, music or dress the classroom.

- Don't spend too long dressing up each student.

- Use suitable characters for the age.

- Have a plan but remain flexible to student ideas.

- Manage the balance between story and teaching.

- Don't step out of the narrative.

https://padlet.com/ahisha73/w57urchcs73lgkbi