

CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

- 1) The teacher writes 5 things that remind him/her of childhood, e.g. playing hide and seek, family dinners, games, lots of snow at Christmas, eating ice cream in the park. Students guess what those words have in common, they should ask the teacher some additional questions in order to find out the context, e.g. What kind of games did you play? Where did you play hide and seek? Why did you eat ice cream in the park?
- 2) Each student prepares a similar set of memories, then students work in pairs and discuss them. If the group is small, students can share their ideas with the whole group, not necessarily in pairs.

To help students you may suggest categories of memories: places, activities, people, games, food, pets, toys, presents you received, films, books, etc.

- 3) Students complete sentences and talk about them in pairs (different pairs than in the previous task), then students discuss questions A-E:

When I was 6 years old I and

Me and my friends used to when we were young.

When I was 15 and

A. Do you regret doing or not doing something when you were a teenager?

B. Who were your friends when you were a teenager?

C. What do your friends from childhood do? Are you in touch with them?

D. Do you still live in the place where you grew up? Describe this place. How has it changed?

E. How do you feel when you come back to the place where you grew up? Do you often go there?

- 4) Students listen to Ed Sheeran's song "The Castle on the Hill" and put the lyrics in the correct order.
- 5) Students check the order of the lyrics, ask for any words or expressions they don't know.
- 6) Students listen again, they may sing the song this time. After they have finished the teacher asks how the man from the song feels coming back to his home town and remembering the old times.
- 7) To sum up and make the memories recalled during the lesson vivid ask your students to write one paragraph (about 100 words) describing one childhood memory or ask students to change the lyrics of the song so that it would suit their memories.

Ed Sheeran „The Castle on the Hill”

When I was six years old I broke my leg

I was running from my brother and his friends

And tasted the sweet perfume of the mountain grass as I rolled down

I was younger then take me back to when

I found my heart and broke it here

Made friends and lost them through the years

And I've not seen the roaring fields in so long I know I've grown

I can't wait to go home

Ref. I'm on my way

Driving at 90 down those country lanes

Singing to Tiny Dancer

And I miss the way you make me feel and it's real

We watched the sunset over the castle on the hill

Fifteen years old and smoking handrolled cigarettes

Running from the law through the backfields and getting drunk with my friends

Had my first kiss on a Friday night I don't reckon I did it right

I was younger then, take me back to when

We found weekend jobs when we got paid

We'd buy cheap spirits and drink them straight

Me and my friends have not thrown up in so long, oh how we've grown

I can't wait to go home

One friend left to sell clothes

One works down by the coast

One had two kids but lives alone

One's brother overdosed

One's already on his second wife

One's just barely getting by

But these people raised me

And I can't wait to go home

And I'm on my way

I still remember these old country lanes

When we did not know the answers

And I miss the way you make me feel and it's real

We watched the sunset over the castle on the hill

Over the castle on the hill

Over the castle on the hill