

My Favourites Lesson Plan

By *Tom Booth*

Preparation

- Make one copy of the **Favourites Worksheet** for each student in the class, and two copies of the **My Favourites Questionnaire** for each student (they will do the activity twice).
- If possible bring in a picture of one of your own 'favourites' – either an artist, a writer, a singer, an actor/actress or a film director.

Warm up

- If you have a picture of your favourite actor/actress, film director, writer, artist or singer, show it to the group. If not, write their name on the board and describe their appearance or draw a picture on the board.
- Spend a few minutes telling the class about this person and why you like them, then invite the class to ask you questions about them.
- Explain to the class that this lesson will involve talking about 'favourites'. First there is a bit of vocabulary to learn.

Presentation (15 minutes)

- Hand out the **Favourites Worksheet**. Go through the initial rubric and allow about 10 minutes for students to match the seven words to their meanings/examples. Only do the matching activity. Students can either work in pairs or complete the exercise alone and check their answers with a partner when they have finished. Either way, allow the use of dictionaries if necessary and monitor and assist.
- When students have finished, go through the answers.

Answer Key:

- | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| a. | 5 | c. | 6 | e. | 1 | g. | 7 |
| b. | 2 | d. | 3 | f. | 4 | | |

Practise (30 minutes)

- Write on the board: *My favourite singer, My favourite actor/actress, My favourite artist, My favourite film director, My favourite writer.* ('Band' has been omitted because 'he' and 'she' cannot be used to describe a band; for the speaking activity it is important to keep the questions as simple as possible.) Ask each student to choose one of these.
- Hand out one copy of the **My Favourites Questionnaire** to each student. Everybody writes the name of the 'favourite' they have chosen on the questionnaire.
- Students work in pairs and swap questionnaires with their partners. Each student looks at the name of the 'favourite' their partner has chosen and the questions. Ask each student to choose up to six of the questions that they would like to ask their partner and to add up to three original questions if they so wish.
- If students are unsure about the meaning of the questions or how to answer them, the **My Favourites Questionnaire Answer Key** has some example answers.
- When the questions have been chosen/written, students swap back their questionnaires and spend a few minutes preparing what they would like to say in response to the questions their partner chose/wrote. Students should spend this time thinking about how to phrase what they want to say in English and if necessary looking up words they might need in a dictionary or consulting the teacher.
- Students now take it in turns to talk about the person they chose, focusing on their partner's questions.
- Rearrange students into new pairs and repeat the activity, this time with a new 'favourite' person. So if someone chose to talk about her favourite artist the first time, she must choose a different 'favourite' the next time around.

Closure (5 minutes)

- Put students into new pairs one more time and ask everyone to tell their partner everything that they have learned in this lesson. This could include the vocabulary from the first part of the lesson, something they have learned about a classmate or anything else.

Favourites Worksheet

By *Tom Booth*

I Match the words a - g with the meanings or examples 1 - 7

- a. a my favourite
 - b. a singer
 - c. an actor (sometimes a woman is called an actress)
 - d. an artist
 - e. a film director
 - f. a band
 - g. a writer
-
- 1. a person who makes movies, for example Steven Spielberg, Peter Jackson, Quentin Tarantino
 - 2. person who sings songs, for example Beyoncé, Michael Jackson, Céline Dion
 - 3. a person who makes art, for example Michelangelo, Picasso, Tracey Emin
 - 4. a group of people who make music, for example the Beatles, Boys II Men, the Spice Girls
 - 5. the one I like best
 - 6. somebody who you can see in films, for example Robert de Niro, Brad Pitt, Scarlett Johansson
 - 7. a person who writes books or writes something else, for example Shakespeare, Dante, Tolstoy, Orhan Pamuk, Natsume Soseki, Dan Brown

2. **Now choose one person, your favourite actor/actress, your favourite singer, your favourite band, your favourite film director or your favourite artist. You are going to tell your partner about this person.**

3. **Before you begin speaking, think for about 4 minutes. Think about what you want to say and how you can say it in English. Use a dictionary and write some notes if you like.**

4. **When you are ready, tell your partner about the person you chose.**

Favourites Worksheet Answer Key

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Match the words a - g with the meanings or examples 1 - 7

- a. 5
- b. 2
- c. 6
- d. 3
- e. 1
- f. 4
- g. 7

My Favourites Questionnaire

By *Tom Booth*

- 1 First choose one of these people: your favourite actor/actress, your favourite film director, your favourite artist, your favourite singer or your favourite writer

- 2 Write his or her name here: _____

- 3 Now speak to your partner and ask your partner these questions about the person your partner chose:
 1. How do you say his/her name?
 2. Is he/she alive now?
 3. Where is he/she from?
 4. What does he/she look like?
 5. Is he/she very famous?
 6. Why do you like him/her?
 7. Do you think the other people in this class like him/her?
 8. What is his/her most famous song/artwork/film/book?
 9. When did you start liking him/her?
 10. Is he/she very rich?
 - 11.
 - 12.
 - 13.

My Favourites Questionnaire Answer Key

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Here are some example answers

2 My favourite singer is called **Dennis Brown**

3 Here are my answers to the ten questions:

1. 'Dennis' is quite easy to pronounce, I think. 'Brown' is the same as the colour brown.
2. No, he died in 1999.
3. He was from Jamaica.
4. He had long black hair, dark eyes and a big smile.
5. He was very famous in Jamaica but only a little bit famous in other countries. Bob Marley was more famous than Dennis Brown.
6. I love his voice and he sang some great songs.
7. I don't know! Maybe they don't know about him!
8. His most famous song is probably Money in my pocket.
9. I think I first heard his songs when I was about 14 years old.
10. No, he was never very rich.