

## MULTICULTURAL LESSON PLAN: English

GRADE: 9

DISCIPLINE: English

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION EXPECTATIONS: By the end of this course, students will:

- read and demonstrate an understanding of a variety of literary and informational texts, from contemporary and historical periods;
- demonstrate an understanding of the elements of a variety of literary and informational forms, with a focus on plays, short stories, and short essays;
- identify and explain the effect of specific elements of style in a variety of literary and informational texts.

MULTICULTURAL MESSAGE: The teacher will show the role proverbs in relaying essential common truths across cultural and geographic borders and also the use of proverbs as a literary tool in written and spoken English.

ACTIVITY:

### Preparations:

- 1) Give out vocabulary as pre-activity homework.
- 2) Teach general idea of proverb, give an example.
- 3) Put students into pairs/groups to do discussion activity.
- 4) Go over meanings in class and elicit meanings and find some examples from other countries and cultures.
- 5) Compare and discuss traditional and Multicultural Proverbs lists.
- 6) Assign students to write their own proverb for homework.

### Proverbs

Following are some well-known proverbs. Discuss the meaning with your partners and then discuss if there are any similar proverbs in other countries or cultures.

### Vocabulary

basket n.	broth n.	bush n.
crowd n.	dull adj.	Grass n.
judge n.	mice n.	put off v.
rod n.	Rome n.	spare v.
spice n.	spoil v.	tricks n.
variety n.	worm n.	

### *Traditional Proverbs List*

Time is money.

Never say die.

Never put off till tomorrow what can be done today.

Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Rome was not built in a day.

You can't teach an old dog new tricks.

When the cat's away, the mice will play.

The early bird catches the worm.

A bird in hand is worth two in the bush.

Two heads are better than one.  
Don't put all your eggs in one basket.  
The way to a man's heart is through his stomach.  
The best things in life are free.  
All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.  
Practice makes perfect.  
An apple a day keeps the doctor away.  
Don't judge a book by its cover.  
Variety is the spice of life.  
Spare the rod and spoil the child.  
Children should be seen, not heard.  
A woman's work is never done.  
A woman's place is in the home.  
There's no place like home.  
The grass is always greener on the other side of the hill.  
Two is company; three's a crowd.  
Beauty is only skin deep.  
Actions speak louder than words.

#### *Multicultural Proverbs*

One man's meat is another man's poison. (Irish)  
Poor is the church without music. (Irish)  
The full man does not understand the wants of the hungry. (Irish)  
After a storm fair weather, after sorrow joy. (Russian)  
As you cooked the porridge, so must you eat it. (Russian)  
A drop hollows out a stone. (Russian)  
Proverbs are the daughters of experience. (African)  
It takes a whole village to raise a child. (African)  
There is no medicine to cure hatred. (African)  
A book holds a house of gold. (Chinese)  
A smile will gain you ten more years of life. (Chinese)  
A dog in a kennel barks at his fleas; a dog hunting does not notice them. (Chinese)  
An army of sheep led by a lion would defeat an army of lions led by a sheep. (Arabic)  
Examine what is said, not him who speaks. (Arabic)  
Ask the experienced rather than the learned. (Arabic)  
The rain falls on the just and the unjust.  
(Native American - Hopi)  
Those who have one foot in the canoe, and one foot in the boat, are going to fall into the river.  
(Native American – Tuscarora)  
We will be known forever by the tracks we leave.  
(Native American – Dakota)

Discussion: The teacher must act as a group facilitator in this activity by eliciting and, if necessary, explaining the concepts of the proverbs.

EVALUATION: Formal marks can be given for creativity of student's written proverb.

