

Minnesota Writing Project

---Demonstration Lesson---

Title of lesson: *Little Roja Riding Hood*: Using Non-English Words in Writing

Suggested grade/age: 7th grade

Approximate time needed to complete lesson: 50 minutes

Learning objective(s) and significance of lesson

My students sit for long periods of time, and many of them speak different languages at home. This lesson was designed for students to stand up and move around our shared class space and also for them to learn how to incorporate the words, phrases, and ideas they hear in their homes into their academic writing.

Brief summary/outline of lesson

Mini-Lesson:

1. Get an e-copy of *Little Roja Riding Hood*, a bilingual children's book by Susan Middleton Elya, and project it so that students can read it together as a class.
2. Read the story aloud to the students.
3. After the story is read aloud by the teacher, explain that students will write three sentences using non-English words.
 - a. Whole sentences can be in non-English words (i.e., full sentences in Spanish).
 - b. They can use the roman characters to spell out the word they are using or use the original script like Arabic or Chinese characters.
4. All students will stand up, go get a notecard, and return to their desks.
5. Students will write three sentences using non-English words on the back of their notecards.
6. After students have written three sentences, they will share their sentences with a partner.
7. They will select their favorite sentence and write the sentence on the front of the notecard.
8. They will stand up, walk across the room to a previously chosen spot, and tape/staple their cards to the wall.
9. Students can choose to use non-English words in texts (poems, paragraphs, etc.) when doing summative and formative classwork.

Related Resources

A smartboard or projector connected to a computer is needed. The e-book mentioned above is available through Hennepin County Library.

Possible extensions or adaptations for different purposes/student needs

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