

5. CRITERIA AND PRINCIPLES OF CHOOSING SONGS

The song is a great source of 'real-life' language. Outside of the classroom, song is frequently the primary source of English communication. Thus, incorporating it into the lesson appears to be a good idea. Above all, the song is an enjoyable way to learn English. The song helps students develop cognitive skills, as well as enhance language skills. With songs, students can learn language appreciation and vocabulary. Song is a fantastic medium for English teachers to use with any level of students. So if the teacher wants to teach English by using songs, he/she should choose certain songs that are suitable for the students. This is very important because there are many types of songs, and it is obvious not all types fit students' levels and needs.

1. In terms of song selection, there are some criteria for the best song for learning English, including:
 1. Everyday English refers to words that are not too difficult or new.
2. Clear pronunciation and recording ensure easy comprehension of the words.
3. The song contains only 2-3 verses.
4. The song should not be too fast, as this can make singing difficult.
5. Interesting to learners, find the song that the learners like,
6. Suitable subject matter; adjust the vocabulary, grammar, story or content to the lesson in the curriculum.
7. Suitable to level of difficulties; adjust the song to the learners level such elementary, intermediate or advance .

These criteria should be remembered by the teacher whenever he/she want to select the song for teaching English by using song. These criteria are expected can cover the students' needs for song in teaching English. The quality of the singer's voce and the quality of recording should also be taken into consideration of the teacher. Because, sometimes even though the singer is a native speaker the lyrics are still difficult to catch by the students.

The principles of song selection criteria are another factor that is predicted to influence how well employing songs in English language instruction works. In order to effectively teach and learn English using song, educators need to take into account a few key points. Before beginning to teach English through song, teachers are thought to find these concepts to be particularly helpful.

The principles are;

1. The songs should have a suitable theme. There is already plenty of bad news, negativity, and violence in the world. Songs with negative themes should be avoided. There are numerous upbeat, humorous songs available.
2. Whenever possible, choose songs popular among students. Students frequently choose songs for classroom use that are offensive in some way, making the song unusable.
3. Ensure song lyrics are clear and understandable. Nothing is worse than a song that almost no one can understand. If you find it difficult to understand the lyrics while listening, choose another song.

Whoever wants to teach English by using song should take these principles as consideration. Because the theme of song sometimes is very popular for

students, but the recording is not clear, or the lyrics are not ethics for students. It also becomes the problem in teaching.