

Super Juniors Christmas Activity

Task: Students write a letter to Santa (Optional extension: Color/decorate the letter.)

Deadline: Wednesday 18/12

Class time: It's completely up to you how much time to devote. However, please treat this as you would a normal writing task and stage it so students are supported with the ideas and language they'll need.

For teachers who want to do an entire topic lesson on Christmas, please note that resources are available in the blue binders near the TA area of the TSC.

Competition:

- Each class chooses the best letter (Suggestion: Let students vote on their favorite)
- Winning letter from each class enters the level-wide competition
- One winner is chosen for each level

Materials and resources:

- Lesson plan ideas and sample letters for low- and mid- to high-level Juniors (below)
- Blank paper/templates
- Crayons, stencils, glitter, etc. for decorating if desired

***Please note that *no extra stationery or supplies* will be available for this project, so you'll have to provide anything special that you want students to use yourself.**

Low-level classes lesson plan idea

Focus language: Toys vocabulary and 'I want a/an _____'

Supplementary materials:

- Sample letter for students to complete or copy in entirety, depending on ability
- Song 'What do you want for Christmas?' ([Jumpstart Supplementary Songs CD2](#) track 23; lyrics and TPR ideas on [Jumpstart Supplementary Songs Book](#) page 57)
- See the blue binders by the TA's area of the TSC for extra resources such as crossword puzzles, wordsearches, game ideas, etc.

Procedure:

1. Activate students' schemata of Christmas using a story, video, visuals etc.
2. Elicit toys vocabulary and introduce/teach any new vocabulary
3. Use the song to teach the chunk 'I want a/an _____'
4. Ask students to think of three things they want for Christmas
5. Controlled practice of written form of students' words
6. Distribute letter for students to complete or copy
7. Decorate if desired
8. Choose/get class to vote on the best letter
9. Perform the song

LOW-LEVEL JUNIORS SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Santa,

For Christmas, I want a _____,
a _____, and a _____.

Thank you!

Love,



Dear Santa,

For Christmas, I want a _____,

a _____, and a

_____.



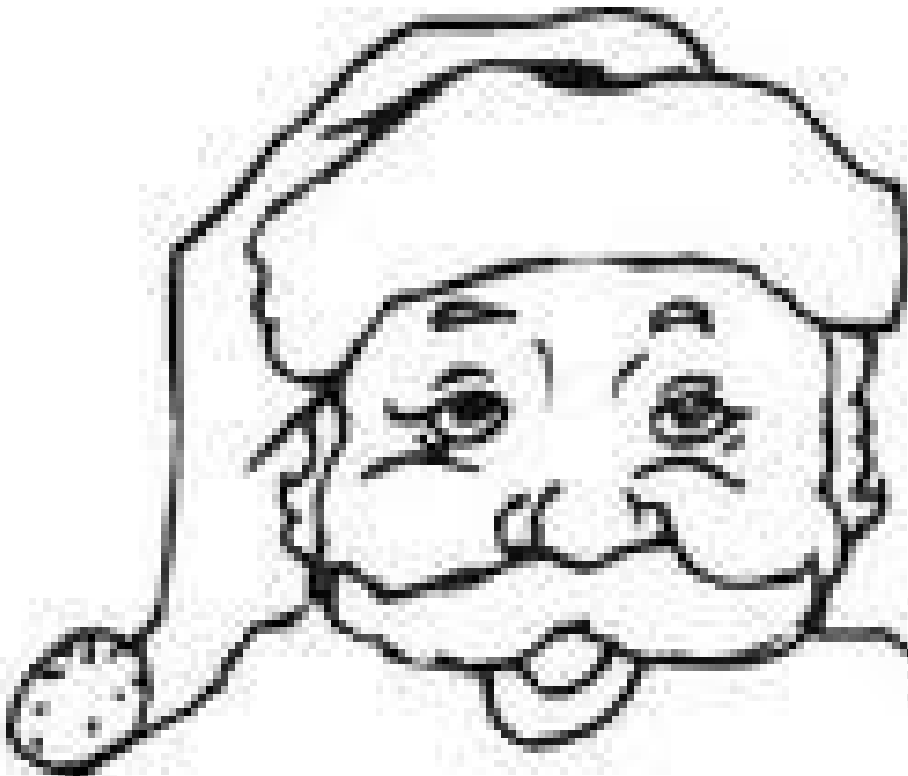
Thank you!

Love,



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Dear Santa,

For Christmas, I want a

a

, and a

Thank you!

Love,

Mid- to high-level classes lesson plan idea

Skills focus: For higher levels, you can use the letter to focus on writing subskills such as organizing ideas, persuading, justifying, etc.

Language focus: The letter can be adapted to include any language point you're covering or used as is to highlight several different areas such as:

- Sequencing (first, then, finally, etc.)
- Justifying (so, in order to, because, etc.)
- Simple past
- Vocabulary (of wishes, good/bad deeds, etc. For example, you can introduce the idea of wishing for a better world to higher levels and encourage them to make altruistic wishes).

Supplementary materials:

- Sample letter
- See the blue binders by the TA's area of the TSC for extra resources such as crossword puzzles, word play activities, wordsearches, readings, etc.

Procedure:

1. Choose an area (language point or writing subskill) of focus
2. Activate students' schemata of Christmas using a video clip, story, visuals, etc. For higher levels, narrow this down so it relates to your area of focus (e.g., talking about good and bad deeds, wishes and desires, justifying, etc.)
3. Highlight the use of your chosen area in the sample letter (by doing it as a gap fill, ordering activity, etc. as appropriate).
4. Have students brainstorm, outline then write their own letters.
5. Select the best letter (you can have students do this by giving them a task that relates to the focus you've chosen—for example, Whose wishes would you grant if

you were Santa? Who was the kindest this year? etc.)

MID- TO HIGH-LEVEL JUNIORS SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Santa Claus,

Christmas is coming soon. This year, I would like many things for Christmas. First of all, I would like a new bike because mine is very old. As well, I would like an iPad so I can play games on it. Finally, I would like a book about pandas so that I can learn more about them.

I have been a good girl this year, so I think I deserve these presents. For example, I helped my friend with her homework a lot. Also, I worked hard in school and made my teacher happy. Lastly, I never fought with my little brother.

Thank you, Santa! I am very excited.

Love,

Jenny



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