

Access English Centre
Immigrant Centre Manitoba
CULTURE & CITIZENSHIP: Retell a Story
Work-out: “Retell a Story” Activity
Advanced Level
60 minutes

Facilitator Note: This is a listening and speaking activity that gives the participants an opportunity to share and retell stories based on what heard and shared among themselves.

Work-out:

Materials: Participants need: optional: paper and pens/pencils
 Facilitator needs: a tape/ tape recorder, digital recorder, or CD player
 recorded story (~5 minutes)

Procedure: Introduction-

Before You Begin:

- | | |
|---------|--|
| 15 min. | 1. Divide the participants into groups of 3. |
| 30 min. | 2. Instruct the participants that they will be listening to a story and after they listen, they will be retelling the same story within their groups. Each member of the group adds details to the story that they heard. |
| 30 min. | 3. A volunteer from each group will be the “ travelling storyteller ” and go to the next group and tell their version of the story. The participants in the group will add more details (about 4 - 5 more sentences) to the guest storyteller’s tale. |
| 30 min. | 4. The guest storyteller moves onto the next group. The process continues again until he/she has travelled to all the groups. |
| 15 min. | 5. They return to their own group and share the new and improved story with their own small group. |
| 15 min. | 6. Choose another volunteer from the group to retell the whole story to the whole group. |

Extension Activity

As a whole group, they can decide which group’s story was the best, or funniest, (original story with new additions) etc. Ask the whole group, how they determined their votes.

*The following story can be recorded and used by the participants or the facilitator can create his/her own:

Sample Story:

A long time ago, there was a village called Norda that was located between a mountain range near the Corderilla region. The people who lived in Norda were strong, hardy folks who loved to ski and ice fish in the nearby fjords. One particular winter, it was very cold and the surrounding ocean was frozen solid. This made ice fishing very difficult. The people of Norda decided that they had to migrate South to find food.

Among this group was a couple named Sila and Maximas who were a cute couple but they had their own eccentricities. Sila always had to wear the colour blue and Maximas always liked to hiccup whenever he saw a pretty lady walk-by. Sila always had to pat his back to clear his hiccups and to remind him that she was his wife.

As they were walking through the mountain range, they came across a curious creature called the Zinchee which was a cross between a rabbit, skunk, and reindeer. It had long ears like a rabbit, the colouring of a skunk, and the body of a reindeer. Zinchees were magical creatures that could transport people to other places in a flash...