



The Grape

LEVEL: HIGH BEGINNING TO ADVANCED
Ann Cartier





THE GRAPE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE INSTRUCTOR

LEVEL:

This exercise can be done with high beginning to advanced students, depending on the level of difficulty of the adjectives you wish the students to use and learn.

For optimal impact, it should be done near lunchtime or in the evening when students are hungry, or at least thirsty.

PRE-CLASS PREPARATION:

Buy and wash a large bunch of grapes, enough individual grapes for each student. (I like red grapes as the color is more intense than the green grapes.) Bring them to class in large, attractive bowl. (Aesthetics are part of this lesson.) I've also done this with carrots.

TARGET LESSON ON SIGHT, HEARING, TOUCH, TASTE, SMELL

IN-CLASS:

- 1) Brainstorm ways that the students can improve their health. This will undoubtedly lead to someone saying they want to eat more healthily, or less, or lose weight.
- 2) Ask them to list where and when they eat.
- 3) Talk about multi-tasking and how it separates us from the world we are living in now.
- 4) Before distributing the grapes, tell the students that it is very important that:
 - a) they take only one grape each,
 - b) they do not put it in their mouth until directed to do so.
- 5) Their first task is to look at the grape. They have to look at the grape for one full minute, and write down adjectives to describe the experience of looking at the grape.
- 6) Next, they feel the grape's skin and describe that sensation.
- 7) Next: Does the grape make any noise? No - ? What about when you rub its skin? What does it sound like?
- 8) What does the grape smell like? (Have they ever been in a vineyard? Or a winery, and smelled fermenting wine? What does vinegar smell like, and how is that different from grape juice?)
- 9) Next, they put the grape in their mouths, but **do not break the skin** until directed. They describe that sensation.
- 10) They can then eat the grape, but slowly, feel the flesh of the grape being ground up by their teeth.
- 11) Talk about how digestion begins in the mouth, with teeth and saliva.

THE GRAPES



TOUCH

- 12) Discuss the experience, and what they felt, or learned.
- 13) Students then write up any portion of the experience, or the overall lesson. If they decide to tackle the entire experience, they could write short paragraphs on each part. In class, we discuss what is germane and what can be discarded in their treatment.
- 14) Students then exchange with others in their group to discuss the experience of eating the grape and the process of writing about it.

AS FOLLOW-UP:

I have asked students to write a contract with no more than two things they will commit to for the next two weeks, after which they will write a report.

The report can address:

- 1) what their two tasks were;
- 2) how easy or difficult it was to maintain;
- 3) what changes they saw in their bodies/quality of life;
- 4) whether they will continue or not.

They brainstorm to see what works for them, and their lifestyle.

It is important that they know I am not grading them on the tasks they choose, nor on whether or not they succeed, or if they will continue.

They will be graded on the process they follow to report on the activity.

WEBSITES:

Reading sources: Websites with advanced-level adjectives for the senses:

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/grammar/partsofspeech/adjectives/index.sht>

<http://its.guilford.k12.nc.us/webquests/fruitveg/adjectives.htm>

<http://www.words-to-use.com/words/fruits-vegetables/>

Explore dictionary and thesaurus entries for any of the above, for example:

See <http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/palatable?s=t> for comparison of adjectives

Thesaurus link for “delectable”: <http://thesaurus.com/browse/delectable?s=t>

HEARING

SIGHT

TASTE

SMELL

LISTS OF ADJECTIVES FOR GRAPES:

BEGINNING LEVEL:

Look: pretty or ugly - red or purple or green - full

Smell: fruity - sweet

Taste: sweet - sour

Hear: silent

Touch: smooth - pleasant

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL (you can also use adjectives in the beginning level):

Look: pretty - red or purple or green (dark red? light green?) - round or oval -

Smell: sweet - fruity - natural

Taste: ripe - sweet - sour

Hear: silent? (Does a grape have a sound?)

Touch: smooth - flexible - full - delicate or tough - sticky

ADVANCED LEVEL (you can also use adjectives in the beginning and intermediate levels):

Look: Describe the exterior and the interior

round – oval or oblong – slippery – slick – lightweight – like an egg – tender – frangible – flexible – rubbery - stationary (or mobile: it rolls!) – complete – natural – stemmed (stalk/twig?) - color: variations of colors: yellowish, dark-green, blue, purple, black, translucent, ...

Smell:

fragrant – sweet - ripe - perfumed - pungent - aromatic - fragrant - scented - musty - sweet-smelling

Taste:

sweet - sour - acidic - bitter - salty - tasty - delicious - savory - delectable - yummy - bland - tasteless - palatable - yummy - luscious - succulent - appetizing - tasteless - spicy - watery - ripe - sweet – liquid/fluid/runny – drinkable – juicy – fleshy – digestible – delicious – delectable - mouth-watering – tart/tangy – acidic – sharp-flavored – seeded (bitter and cardboardy/crunchy/inedible) – squirts juice – explodes – palatable – crunchy - tart

Hear:

silent? rubbery?

Touch – inside and out:

cool/ slimy (interior) - slippery – slick or smooth - elastic - crunchy - crispy



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