



A Popping President

You don't have to serve popcorn for this lesson but it sure motivates and rewards the students! Having an actual popcorn machine where the kids can *watch* the popping fits this lesson perfectly.

Now for the lesson!

1. Tell the storyline: "The president of (name the country) sits down with his wife to watch a movie and enjoy popcorn. As soon as the president starts eating the popcorn he starts to pop, pop, pop up and out of his seat and can't stop. Your story has to come up with a solution on how to get him to stop popping. Your 1st and 2nd ideas won't work. The last idea will."
2. Brainstorm possible solutions to get him to stop popping. Write the students' responses on the board. Here are some ideas:

Sprinkling him with salt
Giving him soda

Putting him out in the cold
Catching him in a net

3. Show the five sections:

Introduction
Problem
1st Attempt
2nd Attempt
3rd Attempt and conclusion

Now to write!

Guide the students through the following steps so their story is organized and complete. Remind them that **ANYTHING** can happen in their story. (I've written examples in italics for your own guidance.)

4. Begin by writing when, where (optional), who and what event.
Last night, in the White House, Mr. President sat down with his wife, the First Lady to watch a movie and enjoy popcorn.
5. Tell the problem:
All of a sudden,
OR
As soon as Mr. President began eating the popcorn, he started to pop, pop, pop, up and out of his seat.



6. Write about the first attempt to stop the popping.
Startled and confused, the First Lady, called _____. They tried to catch Mr. President. It didn't work.
7. Describe the second attempt to get him to stop popping:
The First Lady thought to sprinkle salt on him. It didn't work.
8. Describe the third attempt that worked:
Finally, _____ thought to grab him by the feet and serve him soda. Mr. President was able to hold the can of soda and take a sip. As soon as he did, he fell fast to the floor and didn't pop again.
9. Write a conclusion that includes reflection and thoughts for the future:
No one knows exactly what caused the popping and FBI agents will be investigating the popcorn company that made the popcorn.

Notes: