

Interpret Literal and Intended Meaning

Pecorino's First Concert - Grade 3 - Short lesson

TIME

OBJECTIVE

15 minutes Work out why Pecorino's answers are wrong even though they make sense, and what the man meant instead.

Essential question: How can an answer be true and still not be an answer?

Materials

Text to mark

PRODUCT

Rows for each question the man asks, with a box for what Pecorino answers and a box for what was actually meant

- The book The bus exchange copied without the pictures
- Prepared passages: Passage 1, Passage 2

Lesson sequence

1 The first question - 4 min

- Passage 1 - a small boy at the door of a yellow house on bare ground
- Passage 2 - an enormous blue-shirted torso filling the page, a huge black mustache across it

Focus:	An answer that fits the words and misses the point
Teacher model:	Read the man's first question and Pecorino's answer, and ask whether the answer is untrue.
Prepared text:	Passage 2 2 Both questions - 7 min
Teacher direction:	Write what Pecorino answered and what the man meant, for each question.
Expected answer:	A new bicycle, when the man meant why are you staring; and not gargling, when the man said googling.
Prepared text:	Passage 2 3 Who is silly - 4 min
Focus:	A judgement the first page invites
Teacher direction:	Ask whether the bus scene really makes Pecorino silly.
Prepared text:	Passage 1

Support & extension

Above: Say what the man could have asked instead so that Pecorino would have understood him.

Below: Read the man's first question and Pecorino's answer and say whether the answer is true.

Assessment

- Says what the man meant, not just what he asked
- Notices Pecorino's answers are honest
- Uses the man's own line about not meaning that

