

Platform 17

Aim: For students to write a collaborative pattern poem describing people waiting on a station platform.

Level: Elementary or higher.

Language practised:

Preparation

Find an atmospheric picture of people waiting on a station platform. You can do this by searching Google Images (www.google.com/imghp) or Creative Commons (<http://creativecommons.org>), or use one of the images below.

Prepare the questions and the poem pattern in the second and third sections of the procedure for display on the board/screen.

Poem pattern

Line 1: Where are they? 站在。。。上/坐在。。。上

Line 2: An (adjective) (woman/man) with (clothes or physical features) 一个穿黑色的衣服/拿着白色的包/有长的头发。。。等等的男/女子

Line 3: What are they doing? 他/她看/去/跟。。。说话/等/走

Line 4: And thinking of... 他/她想。。。

Procedure

1. Project the picture or give it out to the students. Ask them some questions to familiarise them with the picture.

Example:



Can you find someone who is texting? 你能找到写短信的人吗?

Can you find someone who is walking? 你能找到走路的人吗?

Can you find someone who is reading? 你能找到看书的人吗?

Can you find someone who is wearing jeans or shorts? 你能找到穿牛仔裤或短裤的人吗?

Can you find someone who is waiting for the train? 你能找到等火车的人吗?

Can you find someone near the stairs? 你能找到楼梯附近的人吗?

2. Ask students to work in pairs and choose one of the people on the platform. Ask them to discuss the following questions:

Who are they – what job do they do? 他/她是谁? 他有什么工作?

What do they look like? 他/她像什么?

Are they feeling? 他/她有什么感觉?

Where are they standing/sitting? 他/她坐着还是站着?

What are they doing? 他/她干什么?

Who are they going to see/where are they going? 他/她去看谁/他去哪?

What are they thinking? 他/她想什么?

3. Give the students the poem pattern. Each pair should use ideas from their discussion to write the verse.

Example:

He is standing on the platform

A man wearing black clothes holding a pink bag

Looking at his phone

Thinking about his dog

站在站台上

一个穿着黑色衣服拿着粉红色包的男子

看他的手机

在想他的狗

4. When the pairs have finished, get them to read out their verse. The other students should try to guess who they are describing.
5. Finally you can put all the verses together to form a poem called 'Travellers' or 'Platform 17'