

TEACHER'S NOTES

Festivals: May Day: Morris

by Julian L'Enfant

Main aims: To develop listening for gist and specific information; to review vocabulary of furniture and household objects.

Level: Beginner

Age: 8-10 years

Time needed: 30-40 mins

Grammar objective: To review prepositions of place: *in, on, next to, under, behind*

Before listening

- 1 Show the picture of Morris the morris dancer from the worksheet.
- 2 Ask questions such as:
What is he wearing? *a white shirt, black trousers ...*
What is he holding? *a handkerchief*
What is he doing? *He's dancing.*
- 3 Tell the pupils that morris dancing is a tradition in England in May and has been popular for many years.
- 4 Tell the children that Morris is going to dance at a May Day festival, but that he needs to put on his costume. Say that before Morris goes to the festival he has to find all the parts of his costume in his house.
- 5 Draw a house on the board and elicit the names of the different rooms. Elicit some furniture that is found in each room.

While listening

- 1 Read the story to the pupils and pause when you reach the item Morris is searching for (in bold). Show a picture, or mime the word and encourage the pupils to say the word. For example, 'Where's my ...?' Mime waving a handkerchief.
- 2 Use lots of mime, shakes / nods of the head to convey meaning and continue to involve the pupils in the story. For example, the pupils could chorally say 'No, it isn't!' or 'Here it is!' Emphasize the sounds of the accessories: *Swish! Ring! Bang!*
Variation: Have the children copy a drawing of a house into their books. Elicit the name of each room and the furniture in each room before starting the story. As the children listen, they draw Morris's route and then circle where he finds each item. Check the answers with the class.

After listening

Drama

The children act out the story. Divide the classroom into four sections. Each section is a room: *bathroom,*

bedroom, kitchen, living room. The children each take on the role of being Morris. As you tell the story, the children go to 'a room' and pretend to search for the item. When they find it, they all shout, 'Here it is!' and then you continue narrating the story.

Reading and writing

Hand out the worksheet. The children read the story and write in the missing words.

Story transcript: Morris the morris dancer

Morris is a morris dancer. Morris is going to a May Day festival to dance with his friends. Morris puts on his costume.

But Morris needs his **handkerchief**.

'Where is my handkerchief?' says Morris. 'I think it's in the bathroom.'

Morris goes to the bathroom.

'Is it in the bath?' says Morris. Morris looks in the bath, but it isn't there.

'Is it on the shelf?' says Morris. Morris looks on the shelf, but it isn't there.

'I know!' says Morris. 'Is it in the cabinet?'

Morris looks in the cabinet.

'Here it is! It is in the cabinet,' says Morris.

Morris picks up his handkerchiefs and waves it up and down. *SWISH SWISH!*

But Morris needs his **bells**.

'Where are my bells?' says Morris. 'I think they're in the living room.'

Morris goes to the living room. '

'Are they on the armchair?' says Morris. Morris looks on the armchair, but they aren't there.

'Are they next to the television?' says Morris.

Morris looks next to the television, but they aren't there.

'I know!' says Morris. 'Are they behind the sofa?'

Morris looks behind the sofa.

'Here they are! They are behind the sofa,' says Morris.

Morris ties the bells to his costume and shakes his legs. *RING RING!*

But Morris needs his **stick**.

'Where's my stick?' says Morris. 'I think it's in the kitchen.'

Morris goes to the kitchen.

'Is it on the worktop?' says Morris. Morris looks on the worktop, but it isn't there.

'Is it next to the fridge?' says Morris. Morris looks next

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to the fridge, but it isn't there.

'I know!' says Morris. 'Is it on the table?'

Morris looks on the table.

'Here it is! It is on the table,' says Morris. Morris picks up his stick. *BANG BANG!*

But Morris needs his **hat**.

'Where is my hat?' says Morris. 'I think it's in my bedroom.'

Morris goes to his bedroom.

'Is it on the chair?' says Morris. Morris looks on the chair, but it isn't there.

'Is it under the bed?' says Morris. Morris looks under the bed, but it isn't there.

'I know!' says Morris. 'Is it in the wardrobe?'

Morris looks in the wardrobe.

'Here it is! It is in the wardrobe,' says Morris.

Morris puts on his hat and goes to the May Day festival.

Morris dances with his friends at the May Day festival.

1, 2, *SWISH SWISH* go the handkerchiefs.

3, 4, *RING RING* go the bells.

5, 6, *BANG BANG* go the sticks.

7, 8, *HOORAY! HOORAY!*

The crowd cheers and everyone claps. Morris and his friends have a party!

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Read the story about Morris the morris dancer. Fill in the gaps.

Morris is a morris dancer. Morris is going to a May Day festival to dance with his friends. Morris puts on his costume.

But Morris needs his _____. 'Where is my handkerchief?' says Morris. 'I think it's in the _____.' Morris goes to the bathroom. 'Is it in the bath?' says Morris. Morris looks in the _____, but it isn't there. 'Is it on the _____?' says Morris. Morris looks on the shelf, but it isn't there. 'I know!' says Morris. 'Is it in the cabinet?' Morris looks in the _____. 'Here it is! It is in the cabinet,' says Morris. Morris picks up his _____ and waves it up and down.

SWISH SWISH!

But Morris needs his _____. 'Where are my bells?' says Morris. 'I think they're in the living room.' Morris goes to the _____. 'Are they on the _____?' says Morris. Morris looks on the armchair, but they aren't there. 'Are they next to the _____?' says Morris. Morris looks next to the television, but they aren't there. 'I know!' says Morris. 'Are they behind the _____?' Morris looks behind the sofa. 'Here they are! They are behind the sofa,' says Morris. Morris ties the _____ to his _____ and shakes his legs.

RING RING!

But Morris needs his stick. 'Where's my _____?' says Morris. 'I think it's in the kitchen.' Morris goes to the _____. 'Is it on the _____?' says Morris. Morris looks on the worktop, but it isn't there. 'Is it next to the _____?' says Morris. Morris looks next to the fridge, but it isn't there. 'I know!' says Morris. 'Is it on the _____?' Morris looks on the table. 'Here it is! It is on the table,' says Morris. Morris picks up his _____.

BANG BANG!



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But Morris needs his _____. 'Where is my hat?' says Morris. 'I think it's in my _____.' Morris goes to his bedroom. 'Is it on the _____?' says Morris. Morris looks on the chair, but it isn't there. 'Is it under the _____?' says Morris. Morris looks under the bed, but it isn't there. 'I know!' says Morris. 'Is it in the _____?' Morris looks in the wardrobe. 'Here it is! It is in the wardrobe,' says Morris. Morris puts on his _____ and goes to the May Day festival.

Morris dances with his friends at the May Day festival.

1, 2, SWISH SWISH go the handkerchiefs.

3, 4, RING RING go the bells.

5, 6, BANG BANG go the sticks.

7, 8, HOORAY! HOORAY!

The crowd cheers and everyone claps. Morris and his friends have a party!