

The future's bright by Gráine Lavin

Teacher's notes

Skills: Reading, writing, speaking

Grammar: Making predictions using *will*

Level: Elementary to pre-intermediate

Age group: Teens and adults

Materials: Prediction worksheets, hand diagram, playing cards

Time: +/- 50 minutes

Note: This is a lesson about predicting the future by reading cards (cartomancy) or the palm of your hand (palmistry). The lesson is just for fun, but proceed with care if your students might have any religious or cultural sensitivities in relation to these practices.

Preparation: You will need some playing cards. This lesson only uses 13 of the playing cards:

Hearts: Ace, Jack, 10, 9, 8, 6, 4

Clubs: Ace, Jack, 9, 5

Spades: 6

Diamonds: 8

I chose the cards that give positive predictions. You need a set of cards for each member of the cartomancy group. If you don't have enough decks, you could photocopy the 13 cards that are needed and laminate them or paste them onto card so that you can re-use them.

Step one:

Introduce the idea of fortune telling. What is it? What are the different ways of predicting the future? Write students' suggestions on the board. If no-one mentions *palmistry* and *card reading*, elicit them. Do they believe in fortune telling? Have they or someone they know ever gone to a fortune teller? What happened?

This is a lesson for practising the future *will*, so it is assumed that the grammar has already been handled in the class. However, you could elicit from the class what tense is used for making future predictions and write some examples on the board.

Estimated time: +/- 5 minutes

Step two:

Explain that the students are going to learn a little bit about predicting the future. Split the class into two groups: one group will learn about palmistry and the other group will learn about cartomancy (card reading).

Begin with the palmistry group and give each student a copy of the hand diagram and the prediction handout. Get them to find the lines on

their own hands and look up what they mean. When they have done their own, they can practise on their partner's hand.

Give the cartomancy group the prediction handout and a deck of cards each. Demonstrate by shuffling the cards and then laying six cards face up. Ask them to find the meanings of the cards on the worksheet. Students first practise on themselves and then on their partner.

Estimated time: +/- 10 minutes

Step three:

Once the students have practised a little, it's time to write the predictions. Explain that they now have to write predictions based on the meanings described in the worksheet. Encourage the students to be creative with their predictions. You can go through a few of them together to give them an idea of what to do. For example:

- **6 of Hearts means sudden good luck = *you will win the lotto or you will find money on the street***
- **If the head line is curved upwards it means the person has a short attention span = *you will get into trouble with your teacher for not listening***

Monitor this part carefully and give students help making the predictions.

Estimated time: +/- 15 minutes

Step four:

Once the predictions have been written, palmists pair up with card readers and take turns to read each other's fortunes. Monitor and help where necessary.

Feedback:

Ask students what predictions they were given.

Optional:

If there is still time left over, get the students to swap partners and get a new reading. Do the two readings match up?

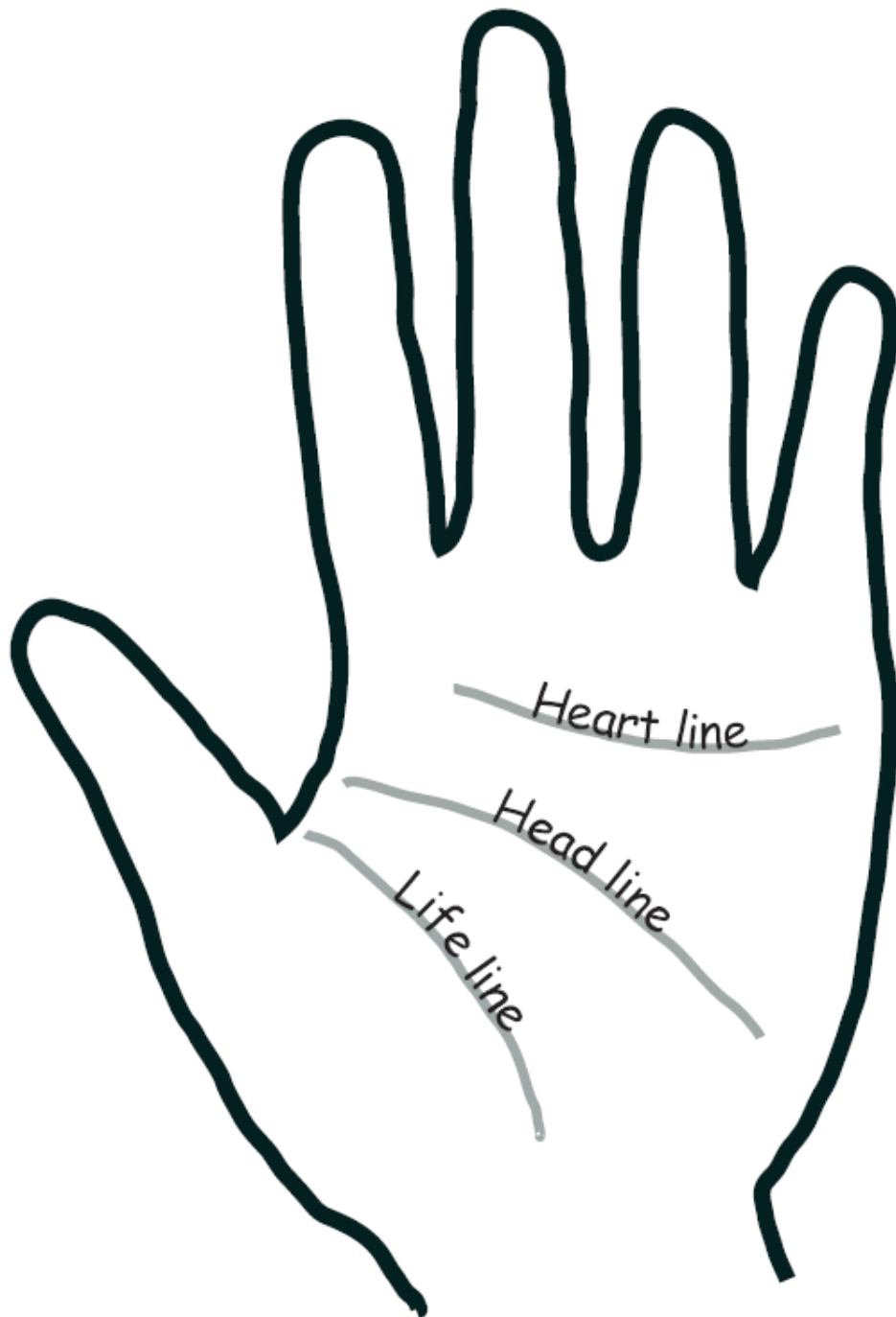
Estimated time: until the end of class

Useful sources:

www.ofesite.com/spirit/palm/palm.htm for information on palm reading

www.cafeastrology.com for information on cartomancy

Palmistry: Hand diagram



Palmistry

People have always been fascinated with fortune telling (predicting the future). *Palmistry* is fortune telling by reading the lines on a person's hand. The three main lines are the *heart line*, the *head line* and the *life line*.

- a) Look at the diagram and see if you can find the lines on your own hand, then practise on your partner.
- b) Next, read the explanations below and write predictions. The first one has been done for you.

The life line is a very important line and is always present. It represents energy and the length of your life.

Example:

1. If the life line is long and deep it means a long life full of energy and good health.

Prediction: *You will live a long and healthy life.*

2. If the life line is short and deep it means a long life with great energy and an ability to overcome health problems.

You will:

3. A double or a triple line means a great love of life and adventure.

You will:

The head line is also very important. It represents what you believe in, your attitude and how you see life.

4. If the head and the life lines are joined at the beginning it means the person has a very strong mind and knows exactly what they want out of life.

You will:

5. If the lines are separated it means the person has a love of adventure.

You will:

6. A long deep line means the person has a good memory.

You will:

7. A short line means the person is good at sports.

You will:

8. If line is curved upwards it means the person has a short attention span.

You will:

9. If line is curved downwards it represents intelligence and creativity.

You will:

The heart line represents emotions and anything to do with love.

10. If the heart line starts beneath the index finger it represents a normal and happy love life.

You will:

11. If it starts beneath the middle finger it means that the person falls in love too easily.

You will:

12. If the line is long and curved it means the person is romantic.

You will:

13. If the line is short it shows a lack of interest in the matters of love.

You will:

Cartomancy

Predicting the future using playing cards is called *cartomancy*. In fact, cards were used to predict the future long before they were used for games. There are 52 cards in a pack, the cards are divided into four suits: Hearts, Clubs, Spades and Diamonds. Today we are only using 13 cards.

- a) First, shuffle the cards. Then choose six cards and place them face up on the table. This is called a spread. Read the explanations below – what do the cards say about your future? Now practise on your partner.
- b) Next, read the explanations below and write predictions. The first one has been done for you.

Hearts

Example:

1. The Ace of Hearts means love and happiness, a very good card to get.

Prediction: *You will live a very happy life and be lucky in love.*

2. Jack of Hearts indicates a fair haired admirer in the future.

You will:

3. 10 of Hearts means good luck and success.

You will:

4. 9 of Hearts means a wish or a dream coming true.

You will:

5. 8 of Hearts means an invitation to a party.

You will:

6. 6 of Hearts means sudden good luck.

You will:

7. 4 of Hearts means travel.

You will:

Clubs 

8. Ace of Clubs means wealth.

You will:

9. 5 of Clubs means new friendship.

You will:

10. Jack of Clubs indicates a dark-haired admirer.

You will:

11. 9 of Clubs means sudden wealth, maybe a win.

You will:

Spades 

12. 6 of Spades means small changes in the future.

You will:

Diamonds 

13. 8 of Diamonds means finding new love on a trip.

You will:
