



Teacher's page

Fun lesson plans from Learn Hot English

Hailey & the bear – did she do the right thing?

Level: Advanced (C1) to Proficiency (C2)

Video: Yes

In this fun lesson, your students will discuss the topic of bravery and read about an incident involving a brown bear. This practical class will get your students using lots of useful language and all the essential skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Here are some ideas for doing it in class. Good luck!



1 Warm-up

Discussion – scroll down for the student pages

Students ask and answer the questions. When they're ready, ask for any opinions, thoughts or observations to share with the whole class.

2 Reading – scroll down for the student pages

Read through the article with students. Help them with the pronunciation of any words (the stresses have been marked in some cases); also, help them with the definitions of any new words. When you finish this, you could do a little quiz on the new words and expressions. For example:

T: What's the name of a baby bear?

S: A cub!

Etc.

3 Reading – scroll down for the student pages

Students watch the video and answer the questions. Play the video once through without stopping. Then, go through the questions stopping at each place where the answer is. Finally, play the video with the subtitles activated so students can read and listen at the same time.

4 Follow-up activity – scroll down for the student pages

Do the speaking activity. Students choose a part to play and then role play a local meeting to discuss the issue. For added fun, try to convince one of your students to play the part of the bear, who could sue the human or file a complaint for injuries, compensation... You could play the part of the chairperson, explaining the background to the topic, introducing the speakers, etc. Or, you could give this part to a student.

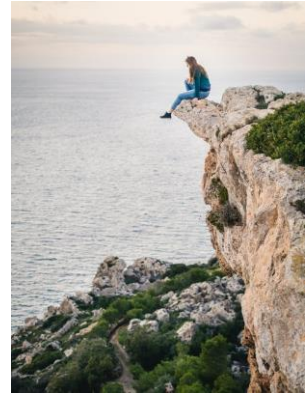


Student's page

Discussion: Being brave... or stupid!

Ask and answer any of these questions.

- What are some of the bravest things you've ever done? What is your idea of bravery?
- When was the last time you did something stupid? (leaving your keys at home, forgetting something...) What was it? What happened?
- When was the last time you felt in danger (either physically or psychologically)?
- How far would you go to protect your pets? Would you jump into the water to rescue them? Would you run into a burning building? Would you approach a wild animal (a bear, wolf, alligator...) to protect them from an attack?
- Is there a fine line between bravery and stupidity? In what way?
- Have you ever done something spontaneously then regretted it afterwards? What was it? Why did you regret it?
- Have you ever forced yourself to do something you really didn't want to do? What was it? How did you feel afterwards?
- Have you ever not acted then regretted it afterwards? What was it? Why did you regret it?
- Has your instinct ever kicked in? When? Where? Why?
- Have you ever been in fight or flight mode? When? Where? Why?
- How would you define courage? Do you know anyone who has done something courageous? What was it?
- Have you ever been courageous? When? Where? How?
- What are you most afraid of? (fire, water, wild animals, heights, flying...) Why?
- Have you ever had to overcome your fear of something? What? When? How?
- Have you ever done something, then reprimanded yourself afterwards for being so stupid? What was it?
- Have you ever helped someone in danger? What was happening? What did you do?
- Have you ever been in a dangerous situation (an earthquake, a flood, a fire...)? What did you do? How did you react?
- Have you ever panicked? When? Where? Why?
- What do you think of this quote? "True courage is overcoming your fear without knowing the result and the consequences of your action"
- What's the bravest thing you've ever heard of?
- Do you think animals should get awards for bravery? Why? Why not?
- Who is the bravest person you know? Why are they brave?
- What's the bravest thing you've ever done?
- Have you ever done any parkour? When? Where? What was it like?
- Have you had to do a bit of quick thinking to save yourself from a dangerous situation? When? Where? Why?
- When was the last time you had to think on your feet?



Video link – up to 3 minutes: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TPaK_qtp2os

Video 1: Girl versus bear!

Watch the video and answer these questions.

1. According to the reporter, what do experts say you should never do to a bear?
2. What does the reporter say about the decision the girl took regarding the bear?
3. Where did the incident take place?
4. What device was the incident caught on?
5. What does the reporter say the bear and its two cubs were doing?
6. What does Hailey say about what type of animal she thought it was?
7. What injuries did Hailey and the dogs suffer?
8. What does the animal expert say the bear was doing?
9. What does he say you should do if you encounter a wild bear?
10. What advice does Hailey give at the end?



The fine line between bravery and stupidity!

Source: Daily Mail

They say there's a very fine line between bravery and stupidity. And these stories seem to confirm that.

The bear

A California teen who charged at a huge bear in her backyard admits she was 'not in her right mind' when she did so – but said she was **d**esperate to save her beloved pet dogs. Hailey Morinico, 17, was seen on her home **surveillance** camera Monday charging towards the **p**redator after it climbed on top of a wall outside her home.



The mother bear was with her two young cubs looking for food before she began pawing at Morinico's four barking dogs (Wednesday, Sparkles, Valentina and TJ). 'Honestly, I didn't know it was a bear until right after I pushed it,' Morinico told *Good Morning America*. The viral **footage** that shows her beating the bear away from her **pooches**. Morinico's mum, Citlally, also appeared on the morning program and said she was '**horrified**' by the footage of her daughter's **encounter** with the brown bear.

Miraculously, Morinico only ended up with a sprained finger. However, experts say she is lucky to be alive. 'There is nothing more dangerous than a mother bear with her cubs,' wildlife expert Ron Magill told *Good Morning America*. Morinico also appeared on CNN, **accompanied** by her pet pooch, Valentina, that the hungry bear had her eyes on. 'The bear was picking up Valentina, and she was literally off the ground, and I had to do what I had to do.'

So, I had about two seconds to think, and the first thing that popped into my head was to push the bear off the ledge,' the teen explained. 'This dog Valentina, she was in danger really, and she's so important to the family – she's my mother's emotional support animal. I couldn't bear to let anything happen to her because I know the pain would have been way too much for my mom to handle, and really I think I did this for her.'

The alligator

In another story, a man jumped into the water to save his dog from an **alligator**. Richard Wilbanks jumped into the water and fought an **alligator** with his bare hands to save his pet dog from the **reptile**. The **incident** was caught on a wildlife camera and shared on social media.

The video shows Wilbanks **submerged** waist-deep in the lake as he **struggles** to free his tiny dog from the reptile's jaws. In the **footage**, the dog cries out as Richard tries to free it from the alligator's hold. He eventually manages to open the jaws of the gator for his dog to hop out and run for its life. The footage was shot as part of a project by the Florida Wildlife Federation called Sharing the Landscape, according to a *USA Today* report. **Incredibly**, Richard managed to keep his cigar in his mouth during the entire incident.



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Speaking: The meeting

You're in a local council meeting to discuss the issue of bears appearing in the local district, and in particular in light of what happened with Hailey and a bear. After choosing your role in the meeting, think of things to say. Then, when you're ready, explain what you think and give your opinions, etc. After that, listen to the other speakers. Finally, ask questions, or challenge any other viewpoints.

- You're the boy-girl involved in the bear incident.
- You're a wildlife expert – you're keen to get the message out there about what to do regarding bears.
- You're the president of the local community, and owner of several properties in the area – you're keen to downplay the incident as you don't want to scare off potential residents or investors.
- You're a local police officer who often gets called out when bears are spotted.
- You're the parent of the person who pushed the bear off the ledge.
- You're a member of a local gun association. You see this as an opportunity to sell more weapons so people can defend themselves against dangerous wild animals.
- You are the bear. How do you feel about what happened?



Quick meeting language

- It's clear that...
- It's obvious that...
- I firmly believe...
- I think... because...
- In my opinion...
- It's been shown that...
- There's some evidence to suggest that...
- There's no doubt in my mind that...
- A lot of people claim that...
- Some people claim that...
- It's clear that...
- Although... I think...
- I agree that... However,...
- Despite the fact that... I still think that...

