## "Let's Milk the Activity"

M. D. María Georgina Fernández Sesma Professor at the Language School-Tijuana. Universidad Autónoma de Baja California Electronic mail: gfernandez@uabc.edu.mx

Proficiency level: Beginners.

Target age: 18 and up.

**Theme:** Milking the activity.

Focus: Listening and vocabulary.

Estimated time: 45 minutes.

Materials: Handout #1 and pencils.

Some times, working as an Adult EFL Teacher seems like playing more than being working. It is the type of job in which both, teachers and students, enjoy their roles. On one hand, teachers develop the ability of being creative, and on the other, adult students are characterized for being participatory. This, could be said, is the perfect match in a perfect world. However, there are moments in teachers' profession in which they can feel overwhelmed with such a challenging job, and the ideas do not flow as they would like they do.

In moments when teachers do not feel very innovative, it would be recommendable for teachers to take a look at the activities prepared for the lesson of the day. There is always one with the potential to lead to another activity, and then to another, and so forth, allowing new ideas to arise and flow without difficulty. This is what is called: "Milking the activity". Let's see an example:

First activity: Let's sing a song.

## Procedure:

- **1.** The teacher gives the students the **handout #1** and tells them they are going to listen to a song.
- **2.** While listening to the song, the students have to focus their attention on the missing words and write them in the blank spaces.
- **3.** Along with the students, the teacher checks out the words they wrote in the blanks and corrects the wrong ones.
- **4.** Finally, the students are invited to sing the song.

Hand out #1: Song. <u>Useful</u> Only Time. <u>language:</u> By: Enya. flows day Who can \_\_\_\_ where the road goes, Where the flows? cries road Only time ... sav heart And who can say if your love grows, As your \_\_\_\_ chose? Only time ... (Chants) Who can say why your heart sighs, As your love flies? Only time ... And who can say why your heart \_\_\_\_\_, When your love dies? Only time ... (Chants) Who can say when the roads \_\_\_\_\_, That love might be, In your heart. And who can say when the \_\_\_\_ sleeps, If the night keeps all your heart? Night keeps all your heart... (Extended chants) Who can say if your love grows, As your heart chose? Only time ... And who can say where the \_\_\_\_ goes, Where the day \_\_\_\_? Only time ...

(2) Who knows?
Only time...

**♣** Second Activity: *Identifying Verbs and Nouns.* 

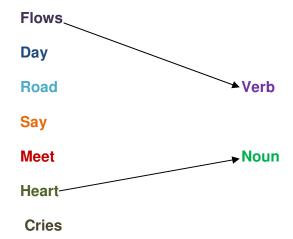
## Procedure:

- **1.** The teacher asks the students to point out if the words they wrote in the blanks are *Verbs or Nouns*.
- 2. The students write (N) noun and (V) verb next to the word.
- 3. The teacher and the students check out the answers together.

Example:

Write (V) verbs and (N) nouns:						
FlowsV	<b>Day</b> N	Say	Road			
Meet	Heart	Cries				

**♣** Third Activity: *Match the words with Verbs or Nouns.* Example:



## **Congratulations!**

Instead of a single activity you applied three. You have milked the activity.