Teaching and Learning Objectives for reading at ESL level 3
3A3 Monitor and enhance comprehension by using simple strategies, perhaps one at a time.
3A4 Use visible and organizational features of texts to aid in understanding
3A6 Extend, revise, and/or reorganize prior knowledge to address reading purpose
3B1 Recognize some high-frequency, personally-relevant, and phonetically-relevant words
3C2 Draw from at least 1 to 2 strategies to discern the meanings of unfamiliar words found in written texts.

Wizard of Oz

Summary

Dorothy is a young woman who lives in Kansas. She has a little dog, Toto. She loves him very much.

One day a big cyclone comes to Kansas. Dorothy and Toto are in the house when the cyclone picks the house up. It goes up, up, up into the air. Dorothy and Toto are scared, but finally they go to sleep.

When they wake up, they are in a new country. They people are small and wear blue hats, coats and pants. There is a nice woman there, too. She is the witch of the North. Everyone is happy to see Dorothy because her house fell on the witch of the East. Dorothy didn’t mean to, but she killed the witch of the East. Everyone is very happy because the witch of the East was a bad witch.

Dorothy wants to go home to Kansas. But no one knows where Kansas is. The country Dorothy is in now is Oz. The witch of the North gives Dorothy a kiss for protection and some advice. “Go to see the Wizard of Oz. He is a good Wizard, and perhaps he can help you.”

Dorothy takes the red shoes from the witch of the East, some bread and some apples. Then she starts walking on the yellow brick road. She meets people while she is walking. She meets the Scarecrow. He doesn’t have any brains, so he joins Dorothy to see if the Wizard can help him. Then Dorothy meets the Tin Man. He doesn’t have a heart. He joins Dorothy and the Scarecrow to see if the Wizard can help him. Finally Dorothy meets the Cowardly Lion. He doesn’t have courage, so he joins Dorothy and the Scarecrow and the Tin Wood man to see if the Wizard can help him.

Dorothy and her friends arrive at the Emerald City. Everything looks green. They go to see the Wizard, but they all go in to see him one at a time. He looks different to each person. He looks like a big head with no body when he talks to
Dorothy. He looks like a beautiful woman when he talks to the Scarecrow. He looks like an animal with two heads when he talks to the Tin Man. He looks like a ball of fire when he talks to the Lion. Even though the Wizard looks different to each person he says the same thing. “Kill the witch of the West, and then I will help you.” The friends decide to look for the witch of the West. Then they will try to kill her.

The witch of the West sees Dorothy and her friends walking on the road near her house. She tells the Magic Monkeys to kill them all—except the Lion. The Lion can work for her.

The Magic Monkeys find Dorothy and her friends. They take the straw out of the Scarecrow. They break the Tin Man’s arms and legs. They take the Lion back to the witch’s house. They see the kiss from the witch of the North on Dorothy’s cheek, and they are afraid. They don’t kill Dorothy or Toto. They take them back to the witch’s house.

The witch sees the kiss on Dorothy’s cheek and is afraid, but she doesn’t say anything to Dorothy. She tells Dorothy she will have to work for her every day in her house.

The witch wants Dorothy’s shoes because they are magic. Dorothy loves the shoes, so she almost never takes them off. She takes them off when she washes, of course, but the witch never goes near water.

One morning, Dorothy’s left shoe falls off. The witch takes it quickly and says, “This is my shoe now.” Dorothy is very angry. She shouts at the witch. She picks up a bucket of water that is near her and throws it at the witch. The witch shouts, “The water is killing me!” and she disappears.

Dorothy looks and looks, but the witch is not there. She decides she needs to help her friends. She puts on the witch’s magic hat and says, “Monkeys—come!” The monkeys come. She has them help her friends. They put straw back into the Scarecrow. They fix the Tin Man. They let the Lion out of the cellar. Then the four friends get on the monkeys and fly back to the Emerald City. They return in about 10 minutes.

The friends wait a long time. Finally the Wizard sees them. They want what was promised them—brains, heart, courage and a way back to Kansas. They hear a loud voice, but see nobody. Then Toto hits a screen and everyone sees an old man with no hair. He tells them he is the Wizard of Oz. He is from Kansas. One day he was in a balloon and the rope broke. He landed in Oz.
Dorothy tells him he is a very bad man because he tricked them. But he says, “No, I am a bad wizard, but I am a good man.” He tells them to come back the next morning.

The next morning the wizard gives the Scarecrow brains. He gives the Tin Man a heart to wear on his chest. He gives the Lion something to drink and he feels brave. He tells Dorothy that he will give her a ride in his balloon. Maybe they will end up in Kansas.

At the last minute Toto runs after a cat. Dorothy runs after Toto. And the Wizard of Oz leaves Oz without Dorothy. Dorothy asks the witch of the South for help. She tells Dorothy that her shoes are magic and can help her go home. All she needs to say is “East-West. Home’s best!” and jump and she will be back in Kansas. Dorothy says goodbye to her friends then says, “East-West. Home’s best!” Then she jumps. The shoes fall off her feet and she never sees them again.

But she does see Aunt Em and Uncle Henry. Aunt Em and Uncle Henry are very happy to see Dorothy. And she is very happy to see them and be back in Kansas.

THE END