

WHILE-TASK: WHAT ARE YOU GRATEFUL FOR TODAY?

Linguistic focus

Writing

Thematic focus

Poetry form 'haiku'

Language level/target group

A2

Teacher instructions

In the book, there is a passage that reads „**What good things have happened in your world today?**” (page 19); this question is the focus of the learning chunk on appreciating. This learning chunk is made up of two parts which can be easily connected to address the theme/the topic of gratefulness.

Option 1

First, the students learn about the *haiku*, a short Japanese poetic form consisting of words with a total of seventeen syllables arranged on three lines (5-7-5). They are introduced to an example of a haiku and shown the rules of how to create one. They then write a *haiku* themselves focused on something they are grateful for today. Those who are finished early can paint a picture to support their *haiku*. The *haikus* are later shared in class (e.g., you could do a gallery walk with students).

Option 2

Additionally, to encourage a positive outlook on one's own life, the students could try out the website <https://neal.fun/life-stats/>. By typing in their date of birth, they are presented with several facts based on their age.

While they likely need to be supported with appropriate vocabulary to understand the accompanying questions that focus on reflecting on these statistics (see Happy 15.2), this can be a great way to discuss how the statistics made them feel like.

Additional material to be used

- Worksheet on *haikus* [Happy 15.1]
- Vocabulary list and questions for *Life Stats* [Happy 15.2]

HAIKU

A *haiku* is a short form of poetry originally from Japan.

The Magic of Autumn

Whispers in the breeze,
Nature's song, leaves **gently fall,**
Peaceful autumn day.¹

1. Read the *haiku* and answer the following questions:

- a) A *haiku* should have lines.
- b) The first line has....syllables.
 The second has....syllables.
 The third has....syllables.
 All together that is..... syllables.
- c) *Haikus* have a rhyme. (true /false)
- d) The *haiku* sounds (angry/calm).

2. Your own haiku

Writing a *haiku* is a fun way to express your feelings and thoughts about the world around you. You just learned how many lines and syllables a *haiku* has (3 lines and 17 syllables).

So, give it a try and create a *haiku* of a good thing that happened to you or in the world today. When you are done writing, paint a picture fitting to your *haiku*.

<u>Your haiku</u>	<u>The Picture</u>
.....	
.....	
.....	
Tip: Circle the syllables after each line you write.	

¹ Created by ChatGPT

[Happy 15.2]

Name:

Date:

LIFE STATS

Vocabulary support

Word	Meaning
beat	to strike or hit repeatedly
pumped	to move or force fluid through a system
produce	to create or make
blink	to close and open the eyes quickly
literacy	the ability to read and write
poverty	when someone does not have enough money

Task:

Scan the QR code, enter your birthday and click on go.

Scroll down, learn more about what happened in the world since you were born and answer the questions on the worksheet.



Life Stats

Your Birthdate:

Go >>>

Link to Life Stats: <https://neal.fun/life-stats/>

[Happy 15.2]

Name:

Date:

Questions

1. How many days has it been since you were born?

I was born _____ days ago.

2. What surprised you the most about your life stats?

3. What shocked you the most about your life stats?

4. What did you find most interesting about your life stats?

5. What is your favourite fact?

6. What was your highest number and in which category was it?

When to use *much* and *many*:

much: for uncountable things.

For example: time, milk, water, rice, butter...

many: for countable things.

For example: days, hours, people, bottles of water, slices of bread, bags of rice...