

Let's Learn English



A bilingual Ezidi/English curriculum
for advanced level students

Lesson #05

Preliminary Comments for Teachers

Lesson #05: Ezidi Values

Level: Advanced

Comment #1: The Role of Prophecy: In this lesson, taken from an Ezidi traditional story, we look at the Ezidi perspective on prophecy.

In the White Bride story, the prophecy concerns a coming catastrophe.

This Lesson is an opportunity for Ezidi people living in Australia to interact with their traditional values, and to ask how relevant these values are for their children.

Comment #2: Nouns and Adjectives: In this lesson we will learn the difference between nouns and adjectives in English.

In Learning Outcome #1 you have the following:

Adjective: An adjective tells us something about a noun.

Whiteboard: One day, an old wise woman came to the village and spoke of a terrible event that would befall the people.

I have underlined each of the adjectives in that sentence:

woman (noun): old, wise event (noun): terrible

If you wish to discuss other examples of adjectives, you could ask, "What are other examples of adjectives that would go with the noun woman?"

woman (noun): old, wise, young, beautiful, tall, short

You could also ask,

"What are other examples of adjectives that would go with the noun event?"

event (noun): terrible, wonderful, exciting, surprising, sad, happy.

Comment #3: Berivana Sipî Vocabulary: Students should fill in the Vocabulary sheet for this lesson by finding nouns and the adjectives that go with them. For each noun (in English) they should give the Ezidi word, and so also for the adjectives.

Note: Some nouns are implied, and some elusive!

Look at the Vocabulary sheet

woman	old	woman	wise
storm	mighty	sacrifice	pure
one (person)	white	one (person)	pure
light	divine	villagers	frightened
life	precious	whole	greater
village	beloved		

Comment #4: Ezidi Community Values: This section is done as a quiz. Each student must participate. For that translation into Ezidi is essential. You don't want students unsure of the meaning of the questions.

Comment #5: Wordsearch: Some students may never have done a Wordsearch. Help them find the first one or two words.

Comment #6: Choose a Proverb: Follow the same pattern as in Lessons #1-4. The proverbs today are from around the world.

Reading Assignment

Page 4-6 The Story of the White Bride *Salifa Berîvana Spî*

The Prophecy Ib xeber bûn

- A: Rojêkê, jîneke pîr û zana hata gund ib minasibe kê û il ser tiştêkî neyî qenj re peyvt iş xelkê gund re. One day, an old wise woman came to the village and spoke of a terrible event that would befall the people.
- B: Wê iş wan re got eman û xweşî il gund de na mîne işber tûfaneka mezin wê rabê û tişt hemû kê il ber xwe be.
She told them that the village's peace and prosperity would be disrupted by a mighty storm that would sweep across the land, threatening to destroy everything in its path.
- A: Reye her ib tinê ke gund û xelkê wî iş vê tûfanê bisitirê lazim yekê qenj bib ye dehî ye. The only way to save the village and its people would be to offer a pure sacrifice.
- B: Yekê wekê ronahî ya Xwedê, spî û paqîj bê.
One who was as white and pure as the light of the divine.
- A: Xelkê gund, bizdiyên û ne it mitekid bûn çî bikin.
The villagers, frightened and unsure of what to do.
- B: Wan xwe ib Berîvana Spî girtin. They turned to Berivana Sipî.
- A: Dak û babê wê, ib xeber bûn û zanîn ev barekî giran e, ib dil giranê çûn e bal.
Her parents, knowing the prophecy and the burden it carried, approached her with heavy hearts.
- B: Wan pirs iş keça xwe kirin de xwe bike qurbanî de gund bisitirê.
They asked their daughter to offer herself as the sacrifice to protect the village.

Berivana's Decision Qirara Berîvana Spî

- A: Berîvana Spî dîm eleqet ke kûr ib xelk ê xwe re û ib erd ê xwe re hebû, dirûf ê wan fîhim kir. Berivana Sipî, who had always felt a deep connection to her people and the land, understood the gravity of the situation.
- B: Berîvanê zanî heyata wê gelekê a hêja ye, lê ev bes çîqek bû iş qenjiye wê.
She knew that her life, though precious, was but a small part of the greater whole.
- A: Berîvanê ib dil xweşî qebûl kir xwe bike qurban, û behwer kir ke bivê heyata xwe fêda bike, gund ê wê î delal wê sitirê.
With a heart full of devotion, she agreed to the sacrifice, believing that her willingness to offer herself would restore harmony and save her beloved village.

Questions about the Berîvana Spî Story

Question 1: How important is prophesy in Ezidi culture?

Question 2: In the Berivana Sipî story, the people believed the prophesy.
If you were the leader of the village, what would you have done?

Question 3: Since the 2014 genocide, some Ezidi communities living in other countries have faced conflicting loyalties: loyalty to the traditional Ezidi culture or loyalty to the culture of the country in which they now live. Should Ezidis adapt culturally to their host country?

Berivana Sipî Vocabulary

NOUNS

ADJECTIVES

ENGLISH	EZIDI	ENGLISH	EZIDI
woman		old	
storm		mighty	

Instructions: Make a list of nouns in English, and give the Ezidi equivalent. Then make a list of adjectives, and give the Ezidi equivalent.

Teachers' Notes

Lesson #05: Ezidi Values	Level: Advanced
<p>#1: Ss will be able to correctly identify nouns and adjectives in sentences.</p> <p>#2: Ss will be able to read a text in English and Ezidi and discuss culture change and Ezidi community values arising from the text.</p> <p>#3: Ss will be able to find English words in a wordsearch.</p> <p>#4: Ss will be able to choose a world proverb, and make a personal application in English.</p>	<p>Resources Needed</p> <p>#1: Reading text</p> <p>#2: Berivana Vocabulary</p> <p>#3: Berivana Questions</p> <p>#4: Wordsearch</p> <p>#5: World Proverbs</p>
<p>Learning Outcome #3: Wordsearch</p> <p>Explanation: Embedded in an English language Wordsearch are all sorts of words in English. This wordsearch is based on the Berivani Sipî story. Hand up if you have ever done a Wordsearch.</p> <p>Handout: Each student already has the Wordsearch handout.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>Instruction: You have just four minutes to find as many words as you can in English. You will see below the words you are looking for. The first word is right at the top: p r o t e c t – protect.</p> <p>Instruction: Draw a line through protect – that is the first word. There are 14 more in the Wordsearch.</p> <p>Whiteboard: Write all 15 words on the whiteboard. After 4 minutes ask for a show of hands and record how many have found each word.</p> <p>Conclusion: Well done. You can read the White Bride story on the Ezidi Youth Association website Learn Ezidi Language Ezidi Youth Association in Australia</p> <p>Learning Outcome #4: Ezidi Proverbs “Choose a Proverb”</p> <p>Explanation: Now we will look at some proverbs from around the world, all on the theme of sacrifice.</p> <p>Handout: Give each student the page titled Choose a Proverb.</p> <p>Action:</p> <p>Instruction 1: Let’s read each of these ten proverbs. I need a volunteer to read out these ten proverbs.</p> <p>Instruction 2: Now choose the proverb that you like most, and</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Write the Proverb on the line below in English; 2. Translate the proverb into the Ezidi language; and finally 3. Write why this proverb is helpful to you. <p>Reporting: Invite students to volunteer the proverb they chose and to tell why that proverb is helpful to them.</p> <p>Note: Be sure to return to students their Proverb from the previous lesson and collect their Proverb from today.</p> <p>Conclusion: Well done. Proverbs give us wise advice for living.</p>	<p>#4: Wordsearch</p> <p>#5: World Proverbs</p>

Questions from the Berîvana Spî Story

Question 1: How important is prophesy in Ezidi culture?

Option 1: Prophesy is very important. We should obey without question.

Option 2: Prophesy is important, but we must discuss and decide whether to obey or not.

Option 3: In Ezidi culture in Australia we do not have prophesy.

Question 2: In the Berivana Sipî story, the people believed the prophesy.

If you were the leader of the village, what would you have done?

Option 1: Encourage and comfort Berivana Sipi's parents is giving up their daughter for sacrifice.

Option 2: Remind the people of the proverb: "It is better to die with honour than live in shame."

Option 3: Remind the people of the proverb: "He who spills blood, spills his own soul," and encourage the people to stand together to support each other if the storm comes.

Question 3: Since the 2014 genocide, some Ezidi communities living in other countries have faced conflicting loyalties. Loyalty to the traditional Ezidi culture or loyalty to the culture of the country in which they now live. Should Ezidis adapt culturally to their host country?

Option 1: Ezidi communities should adapt themselves culturally wherever possible to the culture of the country where they are living.

Option 2: Ezidi communities overseas should always strictly obey the traditional Ezidi culture.

Option 3: Ezidi communities should always obey the laws of the country in which they live.

Wordsearch

p	r	o	t	e	c	t	f	e	e	l	b
u	n	s	u	r	e	v	d	e	a	t	h
r	e	s	t	o	r	e	i	s	a	v	e
e	v	e	n	t	r	e	l	i	e	v	e
h	e	a	r	t	s	m	i	g	h	t	y
a	p	p	r	o	a	c	h	s	t	o	r
v	i	s	e	d	e	s	t	r	o	y	m
y	d	a	u	g	h	t	e	r	o	l	d

Instruction: Find as many of the following words as you can in the Wordsearch:

old

save

hearts

destroy

daughter

wise

death

storm

unsure

approach

feel

event

protect

mighty

restore

Instruction: Draw a line through each word that you find.

Choose a Proverb

Student Name: _____

Instructions: See below ten Proverbs from around the world.

Proverbs from Around the World

1. **Arabic:** *"He who sacrifices his life for others is immortal."*
2. **Hindu:** *"Sacrifice is the highest duty."*
3. **Bible:** *"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."*
4. **Vietnamese:** *"Better to die than live in shame."*
5. **Greek:** *"The brave man is not he who feels no fear, but he who conquers that fear."*
6. **Turkish:** *"A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle."*
7. **Jewish:** *"Whoever saves one life, saves the world entire."*
8. **Persian:** *"He who has not sacrificed cannot taste the sweetness of victory."*
9. **Filipino:** *"A true friend is willing to sacrifice."*
10. **German:** *"He who risks nothing, gains nothing."*

Instruction: Choose the world proverb you like best.

1. **Write the Proverb in English:** _____

2. **Write the Proverb in Ezidi language:** _____

3. **Why is this Proverb helpful to you?** _____

This page is to be handed in after completion.