



## Lesson plan: Manipulation of Language in *The Giver* – Unit 1

Part of a sequence of 3 lessons to learn more about manipulation of language/euphemisms:

- **Manipulation of language in *The Giver* – euphemisms**
- Manipulation of language – euphemisms in real life
- Control over language in real life

**Skills:** Reading, speaking, vocabulary

**Level:** 2<sup>nd</sup> year OS students

**Material:** PPT, *The Giver* book

**Lesson length:** 45'

**Linguistic awareness:** Students will be able to delve into the topic of manipulation of language starting from a literary text, i.e. *The Giver* by Lois Lowry (1993). By analyzing how language is manipulated in the novel, it will be possible to learn about euphemisms and manipulative language usage in the novel. This will allow the students to then acquire knowledge on how these elements are also recognizable in real-world examples, giving them the chance to develop critical thinking.

### General objectives

By the end of this lesson, the students will be able to:

- Learn about and use euphemisms
- Analyze the function of euphemisms in *The Giver* and discuss their impact on how the community perceives reality.
- Identify and create euphemisms by applying them to real-world examples and recognizing how they influence meaning.
- Develop critical thinking on the topic of manipulation of language



| Timing  | Tasks/topics                                          | Objectives                                                     | Material used   | How?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Who?                                     | Linguistics concepts     |
|---------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 5'      | Introduction to manipulation of language in the novel | Understand the existing knowledge of the students on the topic | PPT, whiteboard | <p>Students brainstorm their ideas about how language is manipulated in the novel</p> <p>Teacher asks students about examples of manipulation of language in real life</p>                                                                             | <p>Students</p> <p>Teacher</p>           | Manipulation of language |
| 10'-15' | Passage reading; introduction to euphemisms           | Recognize the function of certain terms                        | PPT             | <p>Passages focusing on Jonas' discovery of the real meaning of "release" is shown and read out loud by the teacher</p> <p>In pairs, students discuss the questions in the slides</p> <p>Teacher gives the definition of euphemism + some examples</p> | <p>Students in pairs</p> <p>Teachers</p> | Euphemisms               |



|     |                                     |                                                                                                             |              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                            |  |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|--|
| 10' | Introductory activity on euphemisms | Understand what euphemisms are and how they are used in real life                                           | PPT, handout | <p>Students work in small groups and work on looking for other examples of euphemisms they find interesting</p> <p>Each group then share their ideas</p> <p>Teacher asks: <i>how and when would you use those euphemisms?</i></p>                                     | Students in groups<br>Teachers at disposal |  |
| 10' | Euphemisms in <i>The Giver</i>      | <p>Analyze language used in the novel</p> <p>Develop critical thinking regarding functions behind terms</p> | PPT, handout | <p>In the same groups, students try to come up with other euphemisms used in the novel</p> <p>Once shared <a href="#">with the whole class</a>, teacher shows the following questions: <i>why do you think the author used euphemisms to describe some terms?</i></p> | Students in groups<br>Teacher              |  |



|    |                      |                                                                                                                            |         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |  |  |
|----|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 5' | Wrap-up and homework | <p>Create a link between two lessons</p> <p>Enhance motivation of students by linking the topic to their personal life</p> | Handout | <p>Students are asked to think about the following question and write down their answers for next time: <i>How does language shape your own views in the real world? Can you think of examples where words have been used to manipulate you or others?</i></p> |  |  |
|----|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|