

Building awareness in learners on the negative consequences of bad human practices

*Maclee Louis Zulu**

PREAMBLE

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

To raise awareness in learners on the negative consequences of bad human practices on their own lives and other peoples' lives.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES OF THE LESSON

By the end of this lesson, learners should be able to:

- Mention some human practices that lead to environmental degradation
- Explain how harming the environment negatively affects the quality of human life.
- State the role of man in caring for natural resources in their environment.

RECOMMENDED DURATION: 40 minutes

TIME: 07:30 am TO 08:10 am

TARGET GROUP: 12 - 18 year old learners

REQUIRED RESOURCES

Extract from the Bible, Genesis 1:1 - 31; photo of a man cutting down a tree with an axe or a chain saw; photo of a manufacturing industry releasing fumes into the sky; photo of a man dumping waste in a stream or river or lake; illustration of a farmer cultivating along a river bank. You could customize and localize material too.

METHOD

Group discussion, recitation of a poem, miming, singing, question and answer, brainstorming.

TIME	TEACHER ACTIVITY	LEARNER ACTIVITY
<p><i>Introduction</i></p> <p>07:30-07:35 (5 MINUTES)</p>	<p>1. Introduce the lesson by telling learners that human life is fully dependent on natural resources around them, e.g. food, clothes, houses, water, air, etc. Ask learners to mention other examples.</p> <p>2. Ask learners to mention verbally any 5 bad human practices that cause damage to nature.</p> <p>3. The teacher jots down the answers on the white/chalk board/ flip chart as they are presented by the learners.</p>	<p>1. Listen to the teacher and mention some natural resources they need to live/survive. For example: trees, etc.</p> <p>2. Answer the teacher's question by giving answers such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Wanton cutting down of trees b. Dumping of wastes in rivers c. Throwing plastic papers anywhere d. Cultivating along river banks e. Setting harmful bush fires f. Dumping of waste on streets <p>Learners should listen to each other as answers are being given (<i>but at this stage they should not copy the answers because some may not be correct</i>)</p>
<p><i>Development</i></p> <p>07:35 08:00 (25 minutes)</p>	<p>1. Make learners form groups of between 8 and 10 people.</p> <p>2. Give the groups a photo/ illustration/image mentioned in resources above and ask them to do the following tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. What term is used to describe the action taking place in the photo/illustration? b. Discuss the negative effects of such actions. c. Draw a future's wheel to connect bad human practices and the negative impact of such acts on human life. d. Supervise the learners as they are discussing in their groups to ensure active participation of all learners and also to guide them if they have lost direction. e. Ask each group to present in class what has been discussed. 	<p>1. They count 1 10. All those who are number 1 get into one group, number 2' s together etc.</p> <p>2. Study the learning materials, discuss and use them for completing the tasks that are given by the teacher.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Discuss in their groups and write down answers like: Deforestation, pollution, etc. b. Mention bad effects of the human actions. e.g. Outbreak of infectious diseases like cholera, typhoid, skin cancer/soil erosion/siltation of rivers and lakes/famine/climate change/ malnutrition/ vulnerability to diseases/high mortality rate. c. Discuss in groups and connect effects of environmental degradation to their causes, which are human actions. Draw a future's wheel to show the link. d. Discuss and ask the teacher for guidance if they need any help. e. The secretary of the group presents the answers as the others are listening.

<p><i>Conclusion</i></p> <p>08:00 08:05 (5 minutes)</p>	<p>a. Conclude the lesson by stressing the role of man in managing the environment in reference to the Bible Genesis 1:1 31.</p> <p>b. Assign each group an assignment to mime/ sing/recite a poem about negative effects of bad human practices on human life to be presented in the next lesson.</p> <p>c. Allow questions or remarks from the learners.</p>	<p>a. Listen to the teacher attentively.</p> <p>b. Copy the assignment question in order to do it during their free time in readiness to present during the next lesson.</p> <p>c. Ask questions if any or give any remarks if at all they have some.</p>
<p><i>Evaluation</i></p> <p>08:05 08:10</p>		

Maclee Louis Zulu is Deputy Head Teacher at Stella Maris Secondary School, Blantyre, Malawi. In 2012, he founded a school club which is called Aware and Fair under the International Fair Trade Movement as a way of making students drivers of social change in their schools and communities while still at school and even after leaving school.

You can view his complete profile and the organisation he is associated with at: http://www.learn2change-network.org/?About_Us__Our_Network__Activists#anker_lozu