

Mad Libs Mission: Writing Fun for Our Troops!

Goal: Today, we're going on a fun writing mission! We'll practice using different kinds of words (parts of speech) to create a hilarious Mad Lib story. The best part? We'll create it with the idea of sending some fun and appreciation to a military service member!

Warm-up: What are Mad Libs? (5 mins)

Have you ever played Mad Libs? They are stories where you fill in blank spaces with different types of words *before* you read the story. It usually turns out super funny! Why might someone enjoy receiving a funny Mad Lib?

Activity 1: Parts of Speech Boot Camp (10-15 mins)

To be great Mad Libs creators, we need to know our word types! Let's quickly review the basic 'recruits':

- **Nouns:** Person, place, thing, or idea (Examples: soldier, base, helmet, courage)
- **Verbs:** Action words or state of being (Examples: run, jump, is, writes)
- **Adjectives:** Describe nouns (Examples: brave, green, shiny, fast)
- **Adverbs:** Describe verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs (often end in -ly) (Examples: quickly, bravely, very, carefully)

Let's practice! Give me an example of each. (Teacher provides prompts if needed).

Activity 2: Operation Word List (10 mins)

Now, look at the blank list on your Mad Libs template. It asks for different types of words (like 'Noun', 'Adjective', 'Verb ending in -ing', etc.). Without looking at the story yet, let's brainstorm and write down a word for each blank space. Try to think of some funny or interesting words! Use a dictionary or thesaurus if you want to find exciting new words.

Activity 3: Create the Mad Lib! (10 mins)

Mission time! Take the words you just wrote down and carefully fill them into the blank spaces in the Mad Libs story template. Make sure the word type matches the instruction (e.g., put a noun where it asks for a noun).

Activity 4: Read Aloud & Share the Fun (5 mins)

Alright, soldier! Read your completed Mad Lib story aloud! Let's enjoy the funny story you created. Did it make sense in a silly way? Did the parts of speech fit correctly?

Wrap-up: Mission Debrief (5 mins)

Great job completing your Mad Libs mission! You practiced your parts of speech and created something fun. Think about the military member who might read this. Why is it nice to send messages like this?

Optional Extension: If you'd like, we can neatly copy the Mad Lib onto a nice piece of paper, put it in an envelope, and find a way to send it to a service member (e.g., through organizations like Operation

Gratitude, if appropriate and feasible, or to a family friend/relative in the military).