

MICHAEL JACKSON'S THRILLER

Level: Intermediate to Advanced

Time required: about 60 minutes

SETTING THE ATMOSPHERE.

Ask students some of these questions:

- Do you believe in ghosts? Do you know any stories about ghosts?
- Has anything ever happened to you that you cannot explain?
- Do you believe that vampires or zombies exist?
- What is the most frightening experience you have had?

THE VIDEO.

Ask students if they know who Michael Jackson was. Can they name any of his songs? Most probably students will know who Michael Jackson know and will have probably mention the song "Thriller". If you deem it appropriate, you can give students some information about this video like for example that it was voted the most influential pop video of all.

More information about the video

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Jackson%27s_Thriller_\(music_video\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michael_Jackson%27s_Thriller_(music_video))

The video lasts about 13 minutes. It is going to be divided into two parts, with a different task for each part .

TASK 1. Dictation (from the beginning to 4.40)

Tell students they are going to see the first part of the video where there is a dialogue between Michael Jackson and his girlfriend.

- Have the students work in pairs. Half the pairs in the class will write down the part of Michael Jackson and the other half the part of the girlfriend.
- I suggest you give students the beginning of the dialogue as M. Jackson's first sentence might be difficult to understand

M. Jackson: Honestly, we're out of gas.

Girlfriend: So, what are we going to do now?

- You might need to play it twice.
- Students help each other complete the dialogue

- Pair students once again, this time you want to pair a student with Michael's part and a student with the girlfriend's part.
- Ask students to act it out.

DIALOGUE

M. Jackson: Honestly, we're out of gas.

Girlfriend: So, what are we going to do now?

They leave the car and start to walk

Girlfriend: I'm sorry I didn't believe you.

M. Jackson: Can I ask you something?

Girlfriend: What?

M. Jackson: You know I like you, don't you?

Girlfriend: Yes.

M. Jackson: And I hope you like me the way I like you.

Girlfriend: Yes.

M. Jackson: I just wondered if you would be my girl?

Girlfriend I: Oh Michael!

He gives her a ring

Girlfriend :It's beautiful!

M. Jackson: Now it's official!

M. Jackson: I have something I want to tell you.

Girlfriend: Yes, Michael?

M. Jackson: I'm not like other guys.

Girlfriend I: Of course not. That's why I love you.

M. Jackson: No, I mean I'm different.

Girlfriend :What are you talking about?

M.Jackson starts his transformation

Girlfriend: Are you alright?

M. Jackson :Go away!

In the cinema

Girlfriend: Can we get out of here?

M. Jackson : No, I'm enjoying it.

Girlfriend: Well, I can't watch. Excuse me.

M. Jackson: It's only a movie.

Girlfriend : It's not funny.

M. Jackson: You were scared, weren't you?

Girlfriend: I wasn't *that* scared!

M. Jackson: Yeah, you were scared.

TASK 2. The Song (from 4.40 until the end)

Write the following words on the board and ask students to guess meanings. Explain if necessary and drill pronunciation.

demons	evil	thrill	terror	horror	creature	demons
hell	rot	corpse	darkness	tomb	doom	evil
thriller	beast	killer	ghost	blood	terrorise	soul

- Play the video **once**.

Play the song and ask students to fill in the gaps with the word in the word cloud. Words can be used more than once

- Play the video a **second time**

Students complete task 1 and try to fill in the blanks for the words in phonemic transcription

It's close to midnight and something ___'s lurking in the dark
 Under the moonlight you see a sight that almost stops your _____ /hɑ:t/
 You try to scream but ___ takes the sound before you make it
 You start to freeze as _____ looks you right between the eyes,
 You're _____ /'pærələɪzd/
 You hear the door slam and realise there's nowhere left to _____ /rʌn/
 You feel the cold hand and wonder if you'll ever see the _____ /sʌn/
 You close your eyes and hope that this is just imagination
 Girl, but all the while you feel the _____ creepin' up behind
 You're out of time

They're out to get you, there's _____ closing in on every side
 They will possess you unless you change the number on your _____ /'daɪəl/
 Now is the time for you and I to cuddle close together, yeah
 All through the night I'll save you from the _____ on the screen,
 I'll make you see

_____ falls across the land
 The midnight hour is close at hand
 _____ crawl in search of _____
 To _____ y'all's neighbourhood
 And whosoever shall be found
 Without the _____ for getting down
 Must stand and face the hounds of _____
 And rot inside a _____'s shell
 The foulest stench is in the air
 The funk of forty thousand years
 And grizzly _____ from every _____
 Are closing in to seal your _____
 And though you fight to stay alive
 Your body starts to shiver
 For no mere _____ can resist
 The _____ of the _____

'Cos this is _____, _____ night

And no one's gonna save you from the _____ about to strike

You know its _____, _____ night

You're fighting for your life inside a _____, _____ tonight

Thriller, thriller night

'cos I can _____ you more than any _____ would dare to try

Thriller, thriller night

So let me hold you tight and share a _____, diller, chiller

_____ here tonight

'Cos this is thriller, thriller now

'cos I can _____ you more than any _____ would dare to try

Girl, this is thriller, thriller night

So let me hold you tight and share a _____, diller.

- Check and listen again to enjoy the video and maybe... sing along?

TASK 3. The homework

I am well aware that I won't be able to check this homework and I am also pretty sure my students, which are all adults, won't be volunteering to let me know how much they have learnt from doing this homework, but I guess that at home they will be having a great time and that's important too.

Link for the video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OWa0kF-_8jM

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Blog de Cristina is also on Facebook.