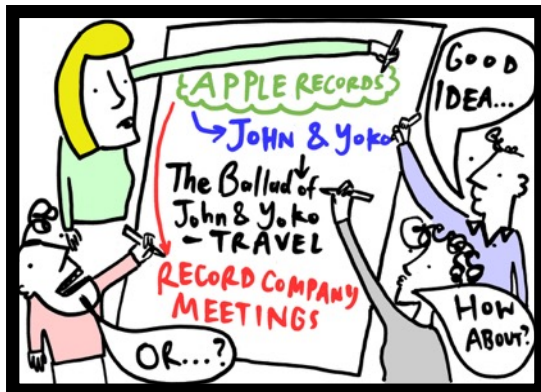


# Lesson Jamming. Jam to Plan in 5 stages. A pictorial guide.

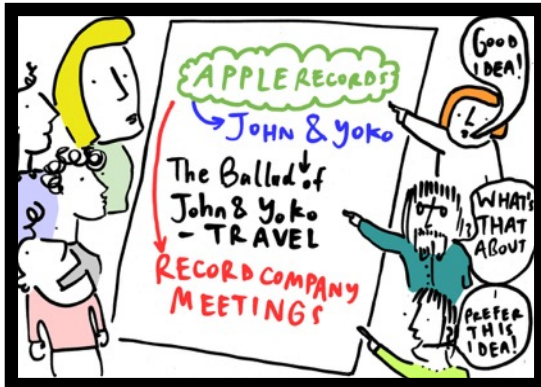
The process is broken into stages that have been designed to provide a platform for improvisation and creativity, while still having the concrete goal of a lesson plan. The timings are suggestions from experience. Stage 4 is the most likely to overrun. I suggest planning time for an explanation at the beginning and a short break after stage 3. An even number of groups is essential for the feedback stage to work. I suggest groups of three to five participants. For me the discussions that take place and the sharing of experience and knowledge are more important than the (often excellent) final plans.



**1. Stimulus.** Each group gets a different stimulus. The stimulus is an object, a photograph or a word. It is around this stimulus that each group develops the ideas for their lesson. (N.B. The original stimulus might have little discernibly in common with the end lesson plan. For example if an apple is used as a stimulus, in the following stages this may trigger associations with Apple computers, which is then developed into a lesson about marketing of consumer electronics.)



**2. Brain Jam.** Each group member has three minutes to brainstorm their group's stimulus alone. Each group then brainstorm for 20 minutes together. The purpose of this stage is to generate and collect ideas. Members of the group talk about their individually generated ideas, give feedback on the ideas of others in their group and freely develop new ideas as a group, building on one another's ideas. A large piece of paper, such as flipchart paper, and marker pens are good for mapping the ideas and the connections between them. (23 minutes).



**3. Feedback.** Each group presents the ideas that have been mapped on their large piece of paper to one other group for feedback. The members of the group giving feedback ask questions about the other group's ideas, give constructive criticism and make any suggestions for developing ideas. This takes 15 minutes. The groups then swap roles. Once again this lasts 15 minutes. (30 minutes).



**4. Jam to Lesson Plan.** Each group now has the ideas for their lesson plan. During this stage they pull those ideas together and write up a concrete lesson plan on a second large piece of paper. It is at this stage that decisions about language level, lesson objectives and timings etcetera are made. (45 minutes).

**5. Presentation.** Each group presents their lesson plan to the other groups. (5 minutes per group).