

# TWO NEW TESL SONGS

The following two songs for elementary ESL students were developed at the Summer 1972 workshop in TESL at CCH.

The first song may be used to teach sentence connectors and subordinators.\*



She can skip a- round the room, and  
she can hop a- round it, too.

The students can make up their own verses as they demonstrate some of the things they can and cannot do. (It is not necessary for the lines to rhyme.)

She can skip around the room,  
And she can hop around it, too.

He can make a big snowman  
Because he has his mittens on.

He can ride a tricycle,  
But he can't ride a bicycle.

She can't walk upon her hands,  
Nor can she turn a somersault.

He can draw a picture here,  
For he has paints and brushes, too.

As children finish an action the negative form might be sung about the next child with the last child's actions; then they could sing about his affirmative action.

1. She can hop around the room,  
and she can skip around it too.

\*See TESL game, *Connecting Clauses*,  
*TESL Reporter*, Vol. 5 No. 2, p. 10.

2. He won't hop around the room,  
nor will he skip around it

3. He can run around the room,  
yet he can walk around it too.

This tune may also be used to learn the following grammatical constructions.

The different tenses and modals could be used if that grammatical concept is to be taught. Three different versions could be sung. Example:

- |                                 |                |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
|                                 | ability        |
| 1. she can hop                  |                |
|                                 | present action |
| 2. she is hopping               |                |
|                                 | past action    |
| 3. she hopped or she has hopped |                |

Singular and plural forms of pronouns  
and verbs (including reflex, if desired).

He is standing very still  
But he can turn himself around

They are standing very still  
But they can turn themselves around.

**Comparative and Superlative examples:**

John is a tall boy.  
He's the tallest in the class.

Mary is a little lass.  
She's the smallest in the class.

**Coordinators**

and  
but  
so  
yet  
for  
;  
nor  
or

**Subordinators**

although  
after  
because  
before  
since  
unless  
if  
until  
as  
though  
so  
therefore  
till  
while  
them  
even though

The following song, written by Aileen Parker and Betty Thrum, helps the students with the English singular - plural distinctions. In addition to ESL students, Hawaii pidgin speakers need this practice.

The indefinite *a* or *an* with *is* is used for

the singular and no article with *are* is used for the plural.

The demonstratives *this* and *that*, (*singular*) and *these* and *those* (*plural*) are also practiced.

This is a ball. A ball is one. These are balls, and balls are fun.

**Suggested Verses**

This is a ball  
A ball is one  
These are balls  
And balls are fun.

This is a puppet  
A puppet is fun  
These are puppets  
And puppets are fun.

This is a block  
A block is fun  
These are blocks  
And blocks are fun.

This is a doll  
A doll is fun  
These are dolls  
And dolls are fun

This is a truck  
A truck is fun  
These are trucks  
And trucks are fun.