## Transformation

Materials Needed: His/her Mini 4 Student - Poem

Adapted from **Band-Aids**, found in *Where the*Sidewalk Ends, by Shel Silverstein, 1974, published

by Harper and Row

Vocabulary Needed: Body Parts

- 1. Elicit from the students the names of different body parts. Many of them will be familiar. If not, play a game such as Simon says to get them to practise.
- 2. Hand out poem and ask students to read it aloud in chorus or pairs.
- 3. Tell them to make a title for the poem.
- 4. Discuss titles.
- 5. Ask students how this poem could be translated into French. Elicit that it would start with 'Elle', but afterwards, there would be no son/sa with body parts, but le/la instead. Ask them to make a rule about the difference between French and English PD usage with body parts. What are the rules for English his and her and French son and sa?
- 6. Tell students to transform this poem by changing the first word to 'He' and the rest of the PDs to match. Ask them to practise saying the transformed poem in pairs. Throughout this activity, insist that students pronounce /h/ in his and her correctly.
- 7. Options: performances in front of class and/or groups are assigned lines to memorise and then whole poem is performed (possibly as a competition to see which group remembers their lines the best).
- 8. Another poem with body parts that can be transformed so as to be written by a boy or a girl is Last Night I Dreamed of Chickens, by Jack Prelutsky.

## Last Night I Dreamed of Chickens

(boys transform this to written by a boy; girls transform it to be written by a girl)

Last night I dreamed of chickens, there were chickens everywhere, they were standing on my stomach, they were nesting in my hair, they were pecking at my pillow, they were hopping on my head, they were ruffling up their feathers as they raced about my bed.

They were on the chairs and tables, they were on the chandeliers, they were roosting in the corners, they were clucking in my ears, there were chickens, chickens, chickens for as far as I could see... when I woke today, I noticed there were eggs on top of me.

http://famouspoetsandpoems.com/poets/jack\_prelutsky/poems/1877