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In-Cult



Educational Methods

Panel Discussion

University of Ruse “A. Kanchev”

Ruse, Bulgaria

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Structure of the methods description:

Name of the method: Panel Discussion

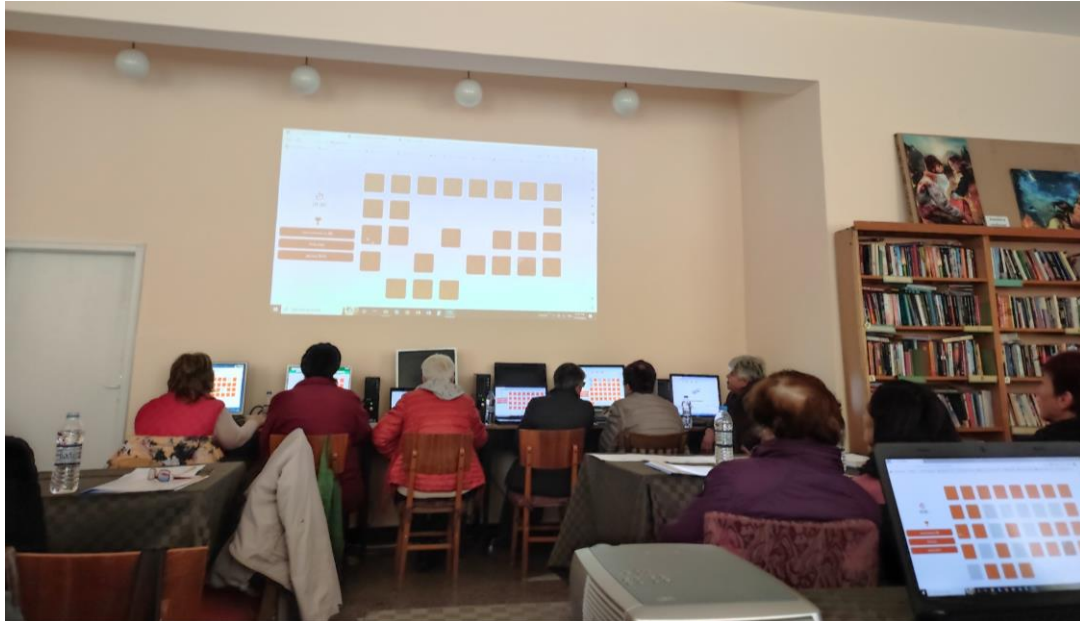
Name/institution of the contributor: Assoc. Prof. Emiliya Velikova, Ph.D./
University of Ruse "Angel Kanchev"

Contact person / contact details: Assoc. Prof. Emiliya Velikova, Ph.D.,
E-mails: evelikova@uni-ruse.bg, evelikova17@gmail.com ; mob. +359/ 885 635 874

Pictures:







Author: *Vasilka Avramova-Koleva, Mariyka Yordanova, Slivo Pole Municipality, Bulgaria*

Short info:

Organizer: *unions/ clubs of pensioners, universities, schools, senior groups, cultural community houses, adult education centers, civil society organizations, volunteering organizations, libraries, NGO's, other local communities*

Target Group: *older adults*

Time required for preparation: *one week*

Time required for implementation: *2 hours*

Venue/place (inside, outside): *indoors*

Suitable time: *any time*

Possibility to implement online: *possible online*

Short description of the method:

A **Panel Discussion** is one of the most popular approaches to discussing trending topics in front of an audience. Its primary purpose is to create a meaningful environment where panelists can share their knowledge and insights that are valuable for the audience. The panelists are experts who present their prepared statements on the discussed topic. They also respond to questions from the audience in real time or online. It fosters productive learning relationships between panelists and participants. In addition, it allows everyone to reflect and think critically when listening to different perspectives.

Implementation of the method in the project:

We implemented the method on a dissemination meeting in November 2022 in the Cultural Community Center of Brashlen. There were the president of the Union of Pensioners (as an expert), 21 presidents of the Clubs of Pensioners of the Municipality of Slivo Pole, the Secretary and the President of the Committee of Culture, Education and Health Care of the local Parliament (as an expert). The participants of the Panel Discussions were also many members of the local network of the Cultural Community Centers, adults educators, representatives of stakeholders. There were more 2 experts and 1 moderator - members of the Working Group of Learners and the Management Board at the University of Ruse.

Two panel discussions of 45 minutes each were held.

Step by step description of the method:

1. Choosing an interesting topic according to the audience and the aim.
2. Preparing of main information for presenting the topics, the main questions to the experts and prompts.
3. Choosing the right experts, who have opposing ideas and concepts regarding the particular topic.
4. Introducing the experts to the main objective, information and questions.
5. Preparing the answers by the experts.
6. Preparing the room for the panels.
7. Opening the panel discussion by the moderator. Presenting the main information.
8. Asking the main questions. Giving the floor to the experts.
9. Encouraging the audience to ask questions, to present ideas, experiences and concepts.
10. Making conclusions. Closing the panel discussion.

One of the best ways to ensure that our audience has really absorbed everything we've presented is to have a space such as a panel discussion where they can ask any questions and make any comments, they like to enhance their understanding of the theme.

The expected benefits are: shared responsibility between the moderator and the experts; engaging the audience; more effective transfer of knowledge; getting the audience feedback.

Teaching and Learning:

We chose topics for two panel discussions: „What is the benefit of the In-Cult game to older people? “; „How to use activating methods in adults' education? “. We included presenting In-

Cult website and playing the In-Cult game for the first panel. For the second panel, we chose innovative activating methods applied in the activities of the Clubs of Pensioners. They were, for example, Education Theatre, Festival, Story-Telling Cafés, Writing Stories, Interviews, Practical Training, Mobility, Seminar. The panelists were participants in the project and had experience in the cultural events and treasures of the Slivo Pole Municipality.

5 Keywords:

Panel Discussion, group-based innovation, cultural treasures, In-Cult game, In-Cult project

Possible training tools, material, resources to use (e.g. flyer, roll-up etc.):

In-Cult game, In-Cult website, links to videos and websites about the chosen cultural treasures, articles, presentations, scientific papers, collected questions and answers

Dissemination possibilities of method:

applications in teaching and learning older adults, university and high school students; publishing information in media; organizing a competition on In-Cult game