



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



In-Cult



Educational methods

Contemporary online witness work

ILEU e.V., Germany

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



Structure of the methods description:

Name of the method: Contemporary online witness work

Name/Institution of the contributor: Institut für virtuelles und reales Lernen in der Erwachsenenbildung an der Universität Ulm (ILEU) e.V.

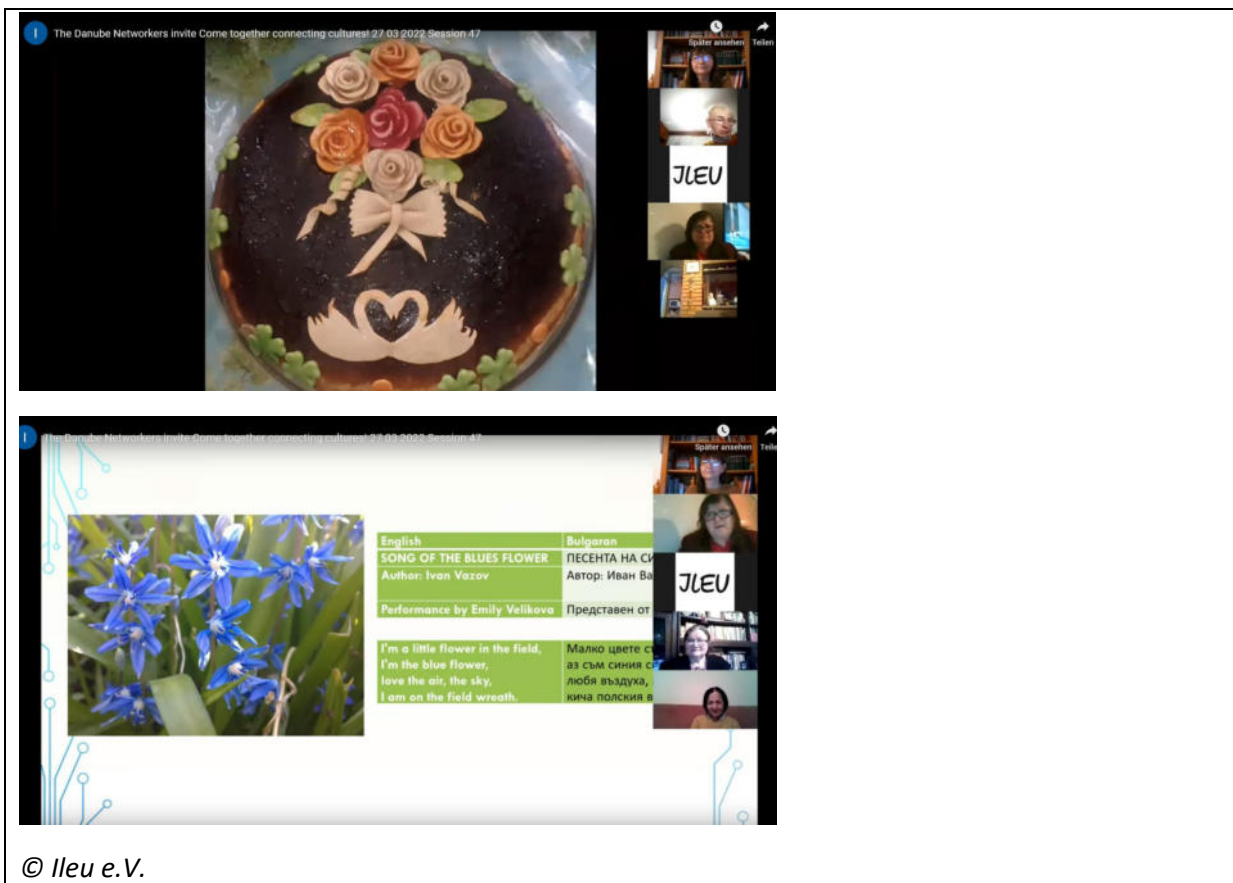
Contact person / contact details: Carmen Stadelhofer, carmen.stadelhofer@uni-ulm.de

Picture

The Danube-Networkers invite:

Come together connecting cultures!

Online meeting 27.03.2022
with around 32 participants



Short info:

Organizer: civil society institution

Target Group: anyone interested in the topic

Time required for preparation: several hours

Time required for implementation: round about one hour

Venue/place (inside, outside): online

Suitable time: whenever the target group is ready to take part, individually at home, during school time, during a meeting of seniors, or other contexts.

Possibility to implement online: yes

Short description of the method (max. 100 words):

In an online meeting (e.g. Zoom), some persons prepared for the topic are ready to share personal experiences concerning cultural heritage. They give an insightful view of their life, how the presented personal cultural heritage was or is experienced and whether the cultural asset has changed during their lifetime. After their presentation, they invite the participants to ask questions, share their own experiences and compare. Young people are also time witnesses and have their own view. Therefore, the method is perfect for intergenerational

exchange. Of interest is also an intercultural exchange concerning the topic to be more aware about differences, similarities, and the reasons why.

Implementation of the method in the project (max. 100 words):

☒ This method can be used as preparation for or in addition to the In-Cult game. A cultural focus is chosen (e.g. carnival, food customs) and is the basis for the time witness interview or dialogue.

During the online Come Together Session, this method is used on a regular basis on Sunday evenings with a changing focus on cultural topics. A cultural focus is chosen (e.g. carnival, food customs etc.) that is the basis for the time witness discussion and the subsequent exchange of knowledge and experiences between the participants. The conversation is always initiated and led by a moderator, so that the witnesses and the other participants stay on topic. It is important to point out that the statements are not historical facts, but personal social experiences, which can be grounded by research and historical facts. Between 25 to 40 participants gather to gain new knowledge and exchange with each other on what they learn.

Step by step description of the method (max. 200 words):

1. Define the target group of the online meeting. If you are working with a group (e.g. seniors or pupils), enter in contact with the concerned moderator or teacher and find out in which frame and in which topic(s) they are interested to participate.
2. Find a suitable time for the online meeting. Look for one or two persons who are willing to start sharing their personal experience about the selected topic. Photos and other documents are welcome.
3. Prepare yourself as moderator or name a moderator for the fixed meeting and assure that he/she has enough competences to overcome critical situations (e.g., the speaker or one of the participants doesn't stop to speak, talks to fast, not loud enough, deviates from the topic...).
4. Make sure that all participants get an introduction on how to handle the technology, if necessary
5. Ask the presenters (no more than two) to prepare a small digital presentation, to visualize their personal story and the context by photos and small texts (intellectual and emotional approach), and fix the time he/she can speak (not more than 30 minutes, if you have two speakers, not more than 20 minutes each person).
6. Inform the participants about the exact time and how they can join the meeting. If people from several countries are involved you have to take into consideration the different time zones and fix the main language you will communicate in, it might be necessary to have translator(s) and use the translator tools (by Zoom).

7. Try if the technique is working before the actual meeting starts and if the speakers and the other participants are able to enter the online meeting. Include your own experiences.
8. Let the speaker present their life; make sure the participants can ask questions.
9. Stimulate a dialogue by asking questions, comparing and taking note that all participants can hear whoever is speaking and that everybody who would like to share gets the chance to do so.
10. Take care of the time of the speakers and of ending the meeting in time.

The main goal of this method is to make a selected cultural heritage tangible for those who do not know it but are interested in historical, cultural and social events and traditions linked to a special country or region. Living history is a method used to inform people, but also to enter into a dialogue about what is similar, what is different, what is worth to be maintained or which changes occurred. It is about getting to know the history of other countries to understand their culture and the traditions related to that country.

Teaching and Learning (max. 100 words):

The participants are motivated to listen to the presenter because the topic is related to his or her life, interest or task. Someone who has experienced or experiences an intangible cultural treasure is more authentic and more captivating than a teacher with a book could be. Having the possibility to talk to such a person is inspiring. Furthermore, it gives the possibility to get answers to many questions. Online meetings allow to arrange this kind of time witness meeting in a short time and beyond borders of age, ethnics and countries.

This method fosters critical thinking and combats stereotypes by presenting several points of view on a certain topic or event. Having people from several countries engaged ensures a differentiated image but also points out that we have a lot in common.

5 Keywords:

videoconferencing, mixed groups, time witness report, comparison, discussion

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

Possible training tools are video conferencing platforms such as zoom and Big Blue Button. A presentation including pictures (e.g. PowerPoint) could help the participants to remember afterwards and makes it more interesting to follow. Flyers can be made to make a link between an online time witness meeting or a series of meetings and the In-Cult game

Dissemination possibilities of method:

Widespread invitation for online session(s) by mailing lists and social media. Make invitations linked with existing treasures/traditions and good practice, festivities days, competitions, record the session to put on website