



Method structure description:

Name of the method: Sensibility European Heritage Tour

Name/institution of the contributor: Universidad Permanente, Spain

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Photos:



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Short info:

Organiser: Universidad Permanente, UPUA, Universidad de Alicante

Target Group: all ages (the language must be adapted to the age of participants)

Time required for preparation: 10 minutes

Time required for implementation: 1 hour (5 minutes for brainstorming, 20 minutes for preparation, 20 minutes for the tour, 5 minutes for further information, 10 minutes for the debate)

Venue/place (inside, outside): classroom

Suitable time: any time or a time close to a national festivity or festival

Possibility to implement online: yes, in a blog or forum scheme where the other group members can read the contributions. In its original format, the activity uses the In-Cult project web-page resources as well as the online games, being conceived as an example of blended learning.

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

This activity tries to bring students closer to unfamiliar traditions or customs related to other European countries, creatively suggesting that they imagine how they would feel if they were participating in the customs or traditions of a different European country. It can focus on a given country (Bulgaria, Germany, Italy, Romania, Serbia or Spain) or revolve around any of the treasures prepared within the In-Cult project, and is highly suited to language communicative lessons or to extra-curricular initiatives on the European day of languages, for instance.

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

This activity based on the materials and games of the In-Cult Erasmus+ project has been conceived as a way to disseminate its contents and knowledge.

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

- ① Open the session with a brainstorming activity about the participants' countries' traditions. Ask them to think about customs or celebrations which could seem strange to foreign visitors and tell them they are going to work with traditions from other countries.
- ② Choose 4 or 5 treasures from the In-Cult project (<https://in-cult-game.eu>) and prepare a sheet of paper with 4 or 5 circles on it.
- ③ Divide the class into groups. Students must write their names on the paper.
- ④ Ask them to write the name of the chosen treasures in the centre of the circles and give them the following instructions:
 - On the right of the circle, write the colour it makes you think of.
 - On the left of the circle, write the sound you associate it with.
 - On the top of the circle, describe its taste
 - On the bottom of the circle, explain what it would smell like/of?
 - In the centre of the circle, specify a feeling or an action you relate to this treasure.
- ⑤ Show them the pictures of the 4-5 chosen treasures, one at a time, and give them a few minutes to write down their words. You can also play some of the videos about the treasures which are available on the In-Cult website; this will provide them with more inspiration.

⑥ Once they have their 5 words, tell them to compose a poem for each treasure according to the template shown below:

This treasure is (colour: red, blue...)
It sounds like(sound: crying, laughing...)
It tastes (like).....(taste: bitter, sweet, sour, like sugar...)
It smells (like/of)(smell: roses, rain...)
I feel(action/feeling: excited, happy, like dancing...)
I feel as if I were in(name of an European country)

⑦ Once everybody has finished, place the poems on a poster with a photograph of the treasure in the middle. Hang them up around the class.

⑧ Let us start the European Tour: Designate a secretary in charge of each panel. Give them each treasure's real description and ask them to read it aloud. Then, read the poems. Which one feels closer to the real experience? Which poem do you like best? Has anybody identified the right country?

⑨ Open the debate: Do we know enough about other European countries? Do many stereotypes exist? Which tradition seemed more strange to you? Are there any similar traditions in your own country?

⑩ As a follow-up, show students the In-Cult webpage and tell them they can discover more traditions there. Show them the online games, where they will be able to check their knowledge about those traditions.

Teaching and Learning (max. 100 words):

This method tries to combat stereotypes about students' Western or Eastern European neighbours by working on positive feelings and considering both the differences and the similarities between countries. It is an excellent activity for language teachers because it works with vocabulary related to such varied topics as feelings, emotions, colours, senses and heritage. It likewise develops learners' creativity via playing with words, additionally activating analytical and critical thinking skills, insofar as students need to compare, analyse, and make connections and assumptions between their previous knowledge and the new material they have been provided with.

5 Keywords:

Heritage, senses, feelings, creativity, critical thinking

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

Posters, pictures, web-page, projector, paper templates and pens.

Method dissemination possibilities:

This activity could be performed in secondary education centres and language schools, as well as in older adult learning centres.