

Intercambio virtual: compartir nuestra cultura

Introducción

En esta actividad, los estudiantes eligen un tema relacionado con la cultura y comparten con los demás un video sobre un aspecto de su cultura. Intercambian los videos con estudiantes de otra clase, los miran y luego comparten opiniones.



Esta actividad se basa en materiales e ideas expuestos por Paloma Varela en su presentación “Intercambio virtual: la internacionalización del aula de enseñanza de inglés” (“Virtual exchange: Internationalising the ELT classroom”).

Referencia de duración del seminario web:

Nivel: Cualquier edad, a partir del nivel A2

Duración: 60 minutos

Objetivo: Ayudar a los estudiantes a conocer sus respectivos países y culturas.

Preparation:

- None

Procedure

- Tell the students you want them to share some aspects of their culture with their partner school.
- Tell them you would like them to record a video to tell other students about some aspect of their country and culture.
- Give them the list of suggestions and put the students into groups to discuss which one(s) they would prefer to speak about.

- Ask students which one they would most like to speak and share about.
- Put all the students who chose the same topic into groups together and ask them to brainstorm suggestions for what they can talk about and share.
- Once they have a list of suggestions, ask the students to take the list home and record their video at home. Tell them they can use a mobile phone or computer webcam.
- Once they have completed their videos, exchange one of them with each of the students from the other class.
- Ask the students to watch their partners' video and find out about their culture.
- In the next class, ask the students to share together what they learned from the videos they watched.
- Ask the students to write a short note to the person who produced the video they watched. Ask them to thank the students and tell the students what they learned from the video, what they liked most about it, and what surprised them most.
- Exchange the messages and in the next class get your students to discuss the responses of the other class.
- You can repeat this process using different topics each time.

Materials:

Cultural exchange topics

- The food we like to eat and how to cook it.
- The music we like to listen to and where we go to hear live music.
- The writers of our country and some of their best books.
- How we spend the weekend and what we like to do.
- Our best friends and what we do together.
- Our city and the places and parts of it we like best.
- My family and our home.

- Shopping, what we like to buy and where we like to go shopping.
- Hanging out with friends, where we like to go and what we do together.
- Our school, what we like about our school, some of our favourite teachers and our study routines.
- Other?

Additional resources

Sociocultural awareness in ELT

- This article looks at the social entity of learning among children. It looks at how as teachers we are social agents and how we are managing the cultural contexts of our classrooms. We prescribe socially appropriate ways of participation, which we need to be aware of.

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/sociocultural-awareness-elt>

Culture and the language classroom

- This 1990 collection of papers looks at contexts of language teaching from educational and cultural perspectives, starting from the premise that language teaching is not 'value free or transparent'.

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/culture-and-language-classroom>

Other cultures

- One of the good things about migration is the opportunities it brings for learning about other cultures. In this speaking and discussion activity, students will be able to share their views and knowledge of other cultures.

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/other-cultures>

Change place, change face

- This activity gives students maximum speaking time and helps develop fluency. The slightly 'unusual' classroom set-up seems to encourage students to speak, producing a healthy buzz and fostering a positive learning environment.

<https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/article/change-place-change-face>