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Lesson plan

time: 45 – 90 mins. (one or two lessons)

class: 14 year-olds , 12 students (Level B1/B1+)

Topic: Seniors across Europe, seniors around us

Aims: * expanding the vocabulary connected with ageing, demography and social issues

- developing students' awareness of the demographic change taking place in the European Union countries and its impact on economy and society.
- building a cultural bridge between students from different countries involved in the Erasmus plus project

Techniques and forms of teaching used in class:

- mind map
- brainstorming
- gap filling
- asking questions/answering
- discussion
- group work
- individual work
- pair work

I. Introduction ~ 3 minutes

- welcoming students
- checking the attendance

II. Warm –up~ 10-15 minutes

- Teacher gives out A4 white sheets to students explaining that they are going to make a mind map. Each student is asked to write a key expression in the middle of the sheet : **SENIORS IN EUROPE**.

Having done this, students are asked to put down as many associations as they are able to produce on the given idea. They have 5-7 minutes to do the task.

- Teacher asks students to give their ideas and writes them on the board.
- Some students are asked to answer the following questions (Teacher puts students' ideas on the board):



"Seniors in the city, seniors everywhere"

- * *What do you know about seniors' lives in Poland?*
- * *Do you think you can help the elderly in any way? How?*
- * *Do Polish seniors have the same or different needs comparing to seniors in Germany, Belgium, Italy or the Netherlands?*
- * *What is the role of the Erasmus + project you are participating in?*

III. Gap filling, ask and answer -10-15 minutes

Students work **in pairs**. Each student in a pair gets a short text with gaps to complete; different for each student (Worksheet A for student A and Worksheet B for another one.)

The text is a summary of the aims and central points of the Erasmus plus project students are taking part in.

In order to complete the task students have to make questions and ask them to their partner. Students take turns. Before questions are asked students are given 7-10 minutes to prepare their 6 questions.



TEACHER'S VERSION

'Demographic change is one of the great societal challenges that European states currently face, however, in schools' curricula this topic hasn't been very present yet. The project's aim is to develop innovative multilingual learning materials that permit students to learn about the everyday life of people over 65 years in four EU member states. In every school, an Erasmus + team is formed by at least two teachers and ten students aged between 14 and 17 years. The teachers involved teach different subjects. The project unites schools with various profiles; intending to benefit from their own diversity.(...) The participants meet once in every participating cities and work on the following products: a MOODLE platform providing learning modules in 5 languages (DE, EN, IT, NL, PL) containing statistics, texts, portraits, interviews. Working with a platform students learn about life in nursing homes, seniors' leisure activities, their economic situation and integration into society.'



WORKSHEETS FOR STUDENTS

WORKSHEET A

'Demographic change is one of the **1**.....that European states currently face, however, in schools' curricula this topic hasn't been very present yet. The project's aim is to develop innovative multilingual learning **2**.....that permit students to learn about the everyday life of people over 65 years in **3**.....EU member states. In every school, an Erasmus + team is formed by at least two teachers and ten students aged **4**..... The teachers involved teach different subjects. The project unites schools with various profiles; intending to benefit from their own diversity.(...) The participants meet **5**.....in every participating city and work on the following products: a MOODLE platform providing learning modules in **5** languages (DE, EN, IT, NL, PL) containing **6**.....(....). Working with a platform students learn about life in nursing homes, seniors' leisure activities, their economic situation and integration into society.'

WORKSHEET B

'Demographic change is one of the great societal challenges that **1**.....currently face, however, in schools' curricula this topic hasn't been very present yet. The project's aim is to develop innovative multilingual learning materials that permit students to learn about **2**.....of people over 65 years in four EU member states. In every school, **3**.....is formed by at least two teachers and ten students aged between 14 and 17 years. The teachers involved teach **4**..... The project unites schools with various profiles; intending to benefit from their own diversity.(...) The participants meet once in **5**.....and work on the following products: eg a MOODLE platform providing learning modules in **5** languages (DE, EN, IT, NL, PL) containing statistics, texts, portraits, interviews. Working with a platform students learn about life in nursing homes, **6**....., their economic situation and integration into society.'



IV. PREPARATION FOR AN INTERVIEW (15-20 minutes)

- Teacher tells students that their homework assignment will be interviewing a senior citizen to gain some knowledge on the life of the elderly in Poland: problems, hopes, expectations, free time, health- it may be their grandmother or grandfather.

The whole interview has to be later translated into English.

- Teacher asks students to work **in 3 groups of 4** and come up with at least 6 questions they may ask the elderly.
- After the task is complete the teacher hands out an interview with a German pensioner done by German teens involved in the Erasmus + project. Students have 5 minutes to get familiar with it and check if the questions they have made up are similar to the ones in the given interview. Students point to similarities and differences.

The interview to be given out to each student:

An interview with a senior citizen (Renate Rzesnitzek) conducted by two students from Berlin (Germany), Jonas and Finn :

Jonas L./Finn K.: Hello, can you give us some short information?

Renate Rzesnitzek: My name is Renate Rzesnitzek, I am 78 years old and I live in Berlin-Lichtenberg.

J./F.: Today we want to ask you "How do older people live and what is their daily routine like". We would like to know if you live alone or together with your family?

Renate Rzesnitzek : I have lived alone for six years now, because my husband died six years ago. But I have one daughter and two grandchildren, who don't live in the same house but nearby. I often look after my grandchildren because my daughter works a lot.

J./F.: So you see your family very often?

Renate Rzesnitzek: Yes, I see my family several times a week and I am very happy that I have this job and that they still need me and support me if I have problems.

J./F.: The next question is, do other people show consideration for you, or they care for you because of your age?

Renate Rzesnitzek: Yes, for example when I get into the tram, and it's full, the young people ask me if I want to sit in their places. I think this is very kind.

J./F.: Do you have any special goals or wishes that you want to reach ?

Renate Rzesnitzek: Yes, I want to be healthy for a long time, so that I can live alone and without help from others. And also without any hindrance or diseases.



J./F.: Do you think that you may have to go to a home for older citizens later when you are older?

Renate Rzesnitzek: Yes if my ability to see will worsen and I will not be able to do my chores in the house right, and become a danger to my surrounding, I will go to a home for older citizens. I check if my heater is out, with a flashlight, because I can't see it very well.

J./F.: have you gathered some information about a home for senior citizens?

Renate Rzesnitzek: Yes, I have got some information about one that is in the neighbourhood.

J./F.: Are there any people in your life you can talk to or ask for help?

Renate Rzesnitzek: Yes, my daughter and my two grandchildren, who help me with my daily stuff which I have to do.

J./F.: What activities do you do in your free time?

Renate Rzesnitzek: In the past I worked with homeless people and helped them and got a lot of gratitude back from them. I also do my daily gymnastics, and go to the physio-therapy.

V. SUMMING UP. (5 minutes)

Teacher asks students about the aim of the lesson and what they have learned.

T reminds students about their assignment: an interview with a Polish senior citizen.