

Development Education opportunities for Junior Cycle Modern Languages

Relevant Statement of Learning (SoL)	<p>SoL 2 The student listens, speaks, reads and writes in L2 and one other language at a level of proficiency that is appropriate to his/her ability</p> <p>SoL 3 The student creates, appreciates and critically interprets a wide range of texts</p> <p>SoL 7 The student values what it means to be an active citizen, with rights and responsibilities in local and wider contexts</p>
Curriculum links	<p>Amongst the aims of modern language teaching is <i>'to give pupils an awareness of another culture, and thus a more objective perspective of their own culture'</i>.</p>

Sample learning activities

A possible theme – **Growing up**

Download Spanish lessons linked to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Students learn to describe their daily routine and compare it with the daily routine Alejandro in Mexico. Lesson plans and worksheets can be found at this link -

<http://www.amnesty.org.uk/resources/lesson-mia-dia-y-los-derechos-spanish#node-8056>

Another possible theme – **No place like home**

This French-language resource from Médecins Sans Frontières is free and can be downloaded for use in the classroom. The resource includes a video and two worksheets based on the story of Mirlanda, a young girl who survived the earthquake in Haiti in 2010.

Suitable for junior cycle students -

<http://www.ubuntu.ie/teaching-resources/mirlanda.html>

Refugees

SPANISH - Information, stories and classroom activities on the theme of refugees and asylum seekers produced by Amnesty International (possibly more suited to LC standard)

<http://www.amnesty.org/en/human-rights-education/resource-centre/download/SEC01%2C068%2C2011/es/pdf>

Poverty, Health and Inequality

These French-language video resources from Médecins Sans Frontières are free and can be downloaded for use in the classroom. The video clips are grouped under four themes:

- about MSF;
- about MSF volunteers;
- issues of poverty and inequality;
- health.

There is a transcript provided for each clip, plus a comprehension and/or discussion exercise in French.

Letter writing

Read about letter writing at <http://www.amnesty.ie/yourletter> and look at *The Power of the Pen* resource pack <http://www.amnesty.org.uk/resources/power-pen-secondary-schools>

Then check out the Amnesty International website in your chosen target language to find out about current letter writing campaigns that your students might support by writing a letter.

Reading/comprehension exercises

When selecting texts for reading or comprehension exercises, why not select testimonies, news stories, or excerpts from autobiographies that will help student to learn more about the lives and experiences of young people living in the Global South? This creates opportunities to consider the many experiences and aspirations which we all share are common as well as the differences.

Useful Websites

Students will be aware of Trocaire and other Irish NGOs. In language classes they can look up different international NGO websites to find out about current issues affecting people in the Global South. Here are a couple of websites to get started with –

Caritas France website:

<http://www.secours-catholique.org/>

Manos Unidas (Spanish Development Organisation) website:

<http://www.manosunidas.org/>

Misereor, Germany (This website has an English, German, French and Spanish version)

<http://www.misereor.org/>

Amnesty International

<http://www.amnesty.org/en> Go to this page and click on language options Francias or Espanol.

This website available in English and **French** collates news from 200 newspapers across Africa.

<http://allafrica.com/>

The site includes a search by country and by topic so you can find articles easily.