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Opening Digital World's Doors to #NEXT Digital Generations
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PR1

Curriculum on using journalism as an innovative tool to teach English

CURRICULUM LEARNING UNITS

Partner: Czech Republic

Target group: Schools/ teachers and other educational providers/trainers throughout the EU.

Title of the unit: Creative Writing		
Duration: long-term project		
Main goals		
To increase students' writing and communicative skills, to let them know what creative writing means, to show them a few possibilities for how they can develop their creative writing skills (e.g. stories, fairy tales, advertisements, comics, plays..)		
Learning Outcomes (Effects):		
Knowledge	Skills	Attitudes
Writing a story with all its elements (characters, setting, plot etc.)	Writing skills	Increasing writing habits
Features of a good advertisement, fairy tale, comics, drama etc., types of different genres	Work with new technologies + using AI	Cooperation with other students
Involving emotions	Communicative skills	Ability to recognise a good story, advertisement, comics, fairy tale etc.
Process step-by-step		
STEP-BY-STEP PROCESS FOR TEACHING CREATIVE WRITING 1. Introduction - What is creativity and creative writing? Define creativity and creative writing: Start by explaining the concept of creativity as the ability to generate unique and original ideas, express oneself imaginatively, and think outside the box. Define creative writing as the process of using imagination and artistic expression to produce original works of literature. Explore the importance of creativity: Discuss the significance of creativity in various aspects of life, such as problem-solving, innovation, self-expression, and personal growth.		



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Highlight how creative writing can enhance language skills, communication abilities, and critical thinking.

Showcase the diversity of creative writing forms:

Introduce students to different forms of creative writing, including short stories, poetry, plays, novels, and essays.

Discuss the characteristics and unique aspects of each form, emphasizing the creative possibilities within each genre.

Discuss the benefits of creative writing:

Explain how engaging in creative writing can foster self-confidence, self-expression, and self-discovery.

Highlight how creative writing encourages empathy, imagination, and the exploration of diverse perspectives.

Explore the role of creativity in language learning:

Discuss how creative writing can enhance language skills, vocabulary acquisition, grammar proficiency, and overall language fluency.

Explain that creative writing allows students to apply and practice their language knowledge in a creative and meaningful way.

Provide examples and inspiration:

Share excerpts or examples of creative writing from well-known authors or students to illustrate the power and impact of creative expression.

Discuss how creativity has been instrumental in famous literary works and how it can be applied in different contexts.

Engage in a class discussion:

Facilitate a discussion where students can share their thoughts on creativity and creative writing.

Encourage students to express their own ideas, experiences, and expectations regarding creative writing.

Set expectations and goals:

Clarify the objectives of the creative writing course or unit, outlining the skills and knowledge students will develop.

Discuss the importance of active participation, creativity, and the willingness to take risks in the writing process.

Remember to adapt the introduction based on the age, language proficiency, and specific learning goals of your students.

2. Warm-up activities:

Engage students with icebreaker games or writing prompts to get their creative juices flowing.

Encourage brainstorming and sharing ideas in a supportive environment.

Discussions:

Initiate discussions about different genres, writing techniques, and literary devices.

Explore examples of effective writing and encourage students to analyze and discuss them.

3. Step-by-step guide:

Provide a structured approach to writing, including elements like plot development, character creation, setting, and dialogue.

Break down the writing process into manageable steps and guide students through each stage.

4. Practice small sections:

Have students practice writing small sections or paragraphs focusing on specific aspects such as descriptive language or dialogue.



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Provide feedback and encourage revisions to improve their writing skills.

5. Feedback:

Regularly provide constructive feedback on students' work, highlighting strengths and areas for improvement.

Offer individual guidance and suggestions to help students enhance their writing techniques.

6. Discussing an author:

Introduce students to renowned authors and their works.

Analyze the writing style, themes, and techniques employed by these authors, fostering critical thinking and appreciation for literature.

7. Incorporating AI into the lesson:

Utilize AI tools to assist in generating ideas, expanding vocabulary, or proofreading written pieces.

Demonstrate how AI can be a helpful tool in the creative writing process.

8. Sharing the work:

Encourage students to share their writing with peers in a supportive and constructive environment.

Organize activities like peer editing or group discussions to facilitate collaboration and exchange of ideas.

9. Feedbacking:

Encourage students to provide feedback to their peers, focusing on constructive criticism and highlighting strengths.

Teach students how to give and receive feedback effectively, fostering a culture of improvement and learning.

10. Presenting:

Provide opportunities for students to present their work orally, developing their communication skills.

Organize storytelling sessions, readings, or presentations where students can showcase their creative writing to an audience.

Remember to adapt these steps based on the specific needs and proficiency level of your students.

The process for particular topics:

1) How to write a story?

Writing a story + types of stories

Elements of a story + the arc of a story

Choosing a topic + brainstorming + creating memorable characters

The use of language

Developing the plot

E.g. Fairy-tale

Moral, characters, setting, problem, dramatic events, resolution, revision

2) Drama work (10-15 lessons)

Rewriting a classical play in a creative way (possibilities: the change of the historical period, bilingual rewriting, the change of ending, more or fewer characters in a play)

Types of plays

Features of drama

3) Comics

Advantages and disadvantages

A topic + characters

Consider a number of panels





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Setting + a plot Dialogues, monologues and description of individual scenes Storyboard Additional details Visualisation Text bubbles Revision + ending 4) Advertising Definition + aims of advertising Types of advertising Creating students' own advertisements and their presentations
Methods and techniques
Technology-based learning, group work, game-based learning, cooperative learning, interactive methods, task-based approach
Didactic tools
All platforms to reinforce creative writing skills, interactive whiteboards, digital technologies
Evaluation
Google forms survey, students' own self-evaluation and evaluation of other students
Resources
Videos, dictionaries, drama scripts
Remarks
References / Bibliography
Marek Mičienka, Jan Jiráček a kol. : Základy mediální výchovy http://ccestina.blogspot.com/2012/05/reklama.html https://neilpatel.com/blog/persuasive-commercials/ https://media.illinois.edu/what-do-we-know-about-political-advertising https://www.cultureamp.com/blog/icebreaker-games-for-work https://blog.slido.com/would-you-rather-poll-questions/ https://www.dramanotebook.com/drama-games/yes-and/ https://varthana.com/school/5-ways-to-develop-creativity-in-students/ https://www.britannica.com/topic/creativity http://improvincyclopedia.org/categories/index.html https://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/professional-development/teachers/understanding-learners/articles/creative-writing-language https://orelt.col.org/module/unit/5-promoting-creative-writing http://improvincyclopedia.org/categories//Verbal_wit.html https://thewritepractice.com/types-of-stories/ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4RZ8-adZbw&t=379 https://www.renenekuda.cz/jak-napsat-pohadku-podrobny-navod/ https://www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/shakespedia/shakespeares-plays/romeo-and-juliet/



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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tSfExfrP1oI&t=1s&ab_channel=ShakespeareBirthplaceTrust

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cvgHjgNjfAg&t=1s&ab_channel=mrjoel2142

<https://www.ctenarska-gramotnost.cz/medialni-vychova/mv-casopisy/komiks-4>

<https://spomocnik.rvp.cz/clanek/17163/KOMIKS-VE-VZDELAVANI.html>

<https://www.storyboardthat.com/cs/articles/e/create-komiksy>

<https://www.creativosonline.org/cs/como-hacer-un-comic.html>



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