

Teaching Culture!



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Name of activity: I see what you are saying

Type of activity: Field work documenting

Topic: non-verbal communication

Material: camera, TV, video recorder, films, photographs, recording material, paper and pencil.

Number of learners: 10-12 adult multicultural Erasmus students.

Language level: B1-B2

Time: 1 hour

Goal: At the end of the activity, the learners will be able to inform about non-verbal communication after they have carried out observation exercises in a foreign culture, in this case, the "cultura leonesa".

Possible challenges: It might be difficult for the students to find or interpret more than one or two gestures.

Preparation: The teacher will explain the activity involving fieldwork to the students in class. Together all brainstorm the plan of action for the fieldwork, the documentation and the reporting back. (Each group will show the documents (photos, paintings, videos ...) and comment and compare with the foreign culture with their own.

Procedure:

- i)** we will brainstorm where they can go to observe the special gestures that they think are typical from Spanish culture (visiting bars, shops, parks, streets...
- ii)** and how they prepare the documentation. (They could use video, photos, where they act out the gestures or drawings, notes. They should work in teams of three or four students. (30 minutes).
- iii)** the field work in León.
- iv)** The reporting, they should represent at least one situation, without words, only with gestures and mime what they have seen on the in the city (even on TV, video). The other students who are looking to the representation must guess the meaning. And all will comment how it is represented in their own cultures. (30 minutes, 12 students = 4 teams, 5-6 minutes each team).

Follow up: They can see films, TV programmes... where they can see typical Spanish situations and gestures.

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