**Lesson plan**

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| Author: Maria Themistocleous |
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| Lesson title: Cultural diversity in Europe: Embracing Differences or Promoting Uniformity? |
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| Lesson brief descriptionThis 90-minute lesson will introduce B2 sts to cultural diversity and foster understanding of cultural differences within Europe and explore the European’s Union’s approach to multiculturalism and inclusivity. This lesson will also help sts to analyze how cultural differences impact European society, and how these differences can be embraced or pose challenges. The lesson includes various activities such as video watching, discussions, debate, peer and self-assessment for feedback. |
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| Time (Lesson duration): 90 minutes |
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| Methodology: (group, individual, peer assessment, brainstorming, etc…)* *Debate (Task-Based Learning)*
* *Communicative Language teaching -sts will focus on real-life topics such as cultural differences.*
* *Collaborative Learning-sts will work in small groups to prepare for the debate, fostering peer learning and collaboration.*
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| Materials needed: * Debate handouts with useful phrases, debate structure and key points.
* PC and projector (for the video clip- discussing cultural diversity in Europe)
* Whiteboard and markers
* handouts with vocabulary related to cultural diversity and European values.
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| Students’ age: 17 years old |
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| Aims/Goals or SWBATs (Students will be able to......)* Enhance vocabulary related to cultural diversity, intercultural communication and European values.
* Foster understanding of cultural differences within Europe and explore the European Union’s approach to multiculturalism and inclusivity.
* Improve speaking skills through a debate on cultural diversity and listening skills through a comprehension activity.
* Help students analyze how cultural differences impact European society, and how these differences can be embraced or pose challenges.
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| Lead-in *Introduce students to the topic.* Time 10 min.* Warm-up discussion
	+ Ask sts what they know about cultural differences in Europe. Write some of their responses on the board .
	+ T may also introduce the topic by asking sts how cultural differences shape European societies and whether cultural diversity is a strength or a challenge for Europe? Sts might write their ideas on the board or answer orally. T might comment on students’ answers.
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| ***What key-concepts could teachers focus on? What needs to be pre-taught?***Time 10 minutes* Key concepts: cultural diversity, multiculturalism, EU values, discrimination, inclusion, tolerance, integration
* Pre-teaching: vocabulary related to cultural diversity, inclusivity, cultural assimilation….
* Debate-phrases (i.e. I believe that…,On the one hand…., On the other hand…, I strongly disagree because…., In conclusion….)
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| ***List of activities with brief description of each one and time for each one:**** Watch a video. Sts watch a short video clip about cultural diversity in Europe. T may ask questions before and after the sts watch the video. i.e. What challenges do European countries face when integrating immigrants? Think of your country. OR What role does the European Union play in promoting cultural diversity? (10 minutes)

T asks sts while watching to take notes on the main points, paying attention to the benefits and challenges of cultural diversity. After watching the video T asks sts questions to check understanding. i.e. What benefits of cultural diversity were mentioned in the video? What challenges were discussed? How do EU policies aim to address these challenges? Do you think the EU is successful in promoting cultural diversity? Sts may give some examples of cultural differences from Cyprus that might cause misunderstanding.* Debate preparation (20 minutes) Give sts the topic: Is cultural diversity in Europe a strength that should be embraced, or a challenge that should be addressed through assimilation? T splits the class into 2 groups. Each group will prepare its arguments. They should plan an opening speech (2min.), supporting points (6 min.), rebuttals (4 min.), and closing arguments (2 min.)
* Debate (25 minutes)
* Follow-up activity - Sts Reflection (i.e have your views changed after the debate?

(10 minutes) * Group discussion -in small groups, sts discuss how cultural diversity is managed in Cyprus and whether the same principles should apply to the E.U. (5 minutes)
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| ***What are other follow up (or homework) activities that can be included?***Students can write an opinion essay on whether Cultural diversity in Europe embraces differences or whether it Promotes Uniformity. |
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| ***What methodology / activities are used for assessment?***Formative assessment (observe sts during the debate to assess their speaking skills), peer assessment sts can give feedback to each other on their debate performance and self-assessment (sts reflect on their participation, language use and how they can improve in future debates. |
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| **Other thoughts about this lesson plan:** Cultural diversity is a timely and engaging topic for 17-year-olds, especially in the context of European values. The debate format helps sts to develop their speaking and critical thinking skills. This lesson encourages collaboration, teamwork, peer support and respect. This lesson also encourages sts to consider how EU values relate to their own experiences and the broader global context. |
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