

‘SEPTEMBER 26: CELEBRATING THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES’

LESSON PLAN

Lesson topic: European Day of Languages (EDL)

Class: 5th grade of primary school- **CEFR level:** A2-

No of students: 52 students (two classes)

No of sessions:2

Type of approach: Eclectic approach (elements of task-based and communicative approach)

Pedagogical orientation: Differentiated and cross-curriculum teaching

Main Objectives: By the end of the sessions students are expected to **1.** have seen deeper into the importance of foreign language learning as well as to its relevance to our everyday life, thus realising the value of plurilingualism **2.** to have had a sense of belongingness to the broad ‘European Family’ (since this day is celebrated on a European basis by thousands of people, from all walks of life) **3.** to have been introduced to various forms of autonomous learning **4.** to have realised that classical music can function as a symbol of values (of unity, cooperation, co-existence,peace)

Primary skills involved:Writing, Speaking, Listening, Reading

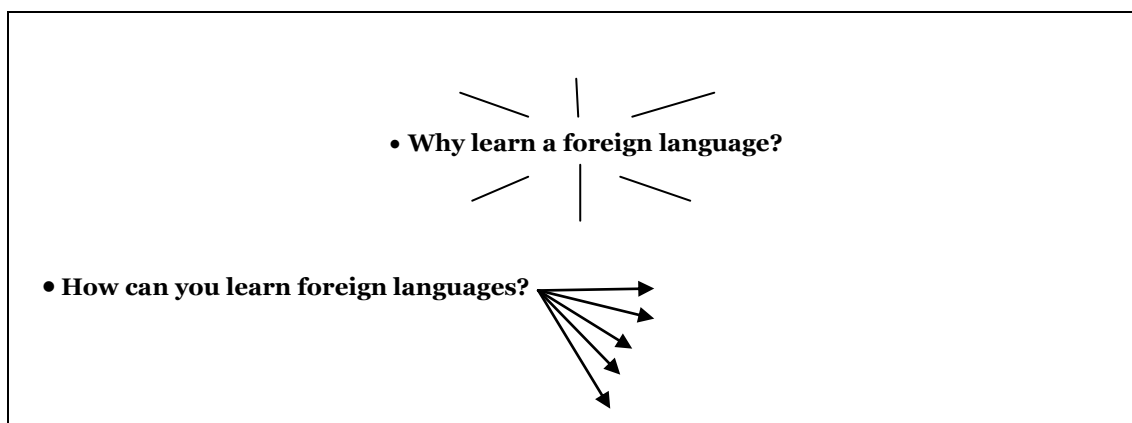
Secondary skills involved:Crafting/Drawing

School subjects involved: English, Music, Geography, Arts

Worksheets supplied: One fill-in activity

Materials/Resources: CDs, CD player, Laptop, OHP, drawings/pictures of European flags, a picture of Ludvig Van Beethoven, paperboard, glue, markers, map of Europe.

Board plan (session 2):



Session 1

Stage	Procedure	Resources	Time
Warm-up stage	The teacher writes on the board <i>September 26</i> asking the learners whether they know what is celebrated on that day. Students reply, making guesses.	Board	1-2 mns
Presentation	<p>Then the teacher informs students that they are going to watch a video-clip (prepared by the European Centre for Modern Languages, celebrating September 26) and that they are expected to answer to her initial question (<i>What is celebrated on that day?</i>). She asks students to note down anything that they understand from the clip in relation to that day, stressing that ALL learners can write or say something.</p> <p>http://edl.ecml.at/Events/PictureGallery2013/EDLvideo/</p> <p>Students respond individually to the previous request. Then they are allocated some extra time (approx. 1 minute) to work in pairs or in small groups and finally state the object(s) of the celebration in question. The teacher then records key words (level appropriate) from the clip on the board (<i>foreign languages, communicate, Europe, good event, celebrate languages, 6000 languages around the world, new friendships, all ages, discover new cultures, borders, Canada, Brazil, societies, minds, cultures, translate, schools, fixed date</i>), inviting students to supply their meaning. The latter record the relevant language in their notebooks. (Students having issues with understanding English can copy the simpler words.)</p>	Video-clip Laptop OHP	6-8 mns
Practice (1)	The teacher then hands out a worksheet on facts about language learning and languages generally. Students work in groups or in pairs, deciding together on the answers. The teacher monitors and provides help when necessary, finally drawing students' attention to the logo pasted below the activity. (Questions: <i>What you see in this logo? Why do you think that this is the logo of the EDL?</i>) Students reply.	Board	10-15 mns
		Worksheet	5-10 mns

	Finally the teacher asks the class whether interested in making a poster for celebrating this particular day. In case of a positive answer, she asks them to bring or draw flags from European countries, photographs illustrating European cities or anything that they consider relevant to the EDL. Finally she asks for a picture of Beethoven (without supplying further explanations).		1-2 mns
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Session 2

Stage	Procedure	Resources	Time
Practice (2)	<p>The teacher asks the class whether they remember what is celebrated on September 26. Students reply. She then writes on the board the question <u>Why learn a foreign language</u>, inviting learners to brainstorm possible answers. (The teacher makes allowances for those students who have difficulties with the English language, thus she accepts responses in L1, too). The teacher writes students' answers on the board (all in L2) and then asks them to make a final comment on the importance of plurilingualism (questions: <i>So how important is to speak foreign languages? Is one foreign language enough?</i>). Students reply and then they copy the diagram in their notebooks. The same procedure is followed for the next question: <u>How can we learn foreign languages?</u> The teacher invites learners to reflect upon autonomous foreign language learning (question: <i>Which of the methods do you follow yourselves?</i>)</p> <p>Then students are asked to play a guessing game: They listen to different bits of foreign languages and guess their origin. (Bits of German, Swedish and French are included in the</p>	Board	12-15 mns
		CD, CD player	2-3 mns

Production	<p>recording).</p> <p>Students then listen to short versions of the <i>Ode to Joy</i> of Ludvig Van Beethoven. The teacher informs them that this music is known to symbolise Europe and the European Union. Then she asks them if they understand why this is so (Question: <i>Name something 'European' this music symbolises.</i> Possible answers: <i>unity, different peoples, various languages, peace, cooperation</i>)</p>	CD, CD player	3-5 mns
	<p>Finally the teacher invites class volunteers to make the poster: The key questions elaborated previously function as the heart of the poster. Different tasks (pasting of the flags, copying of the diagrams) are assigned to different students by the class (brief voting). The teacher meanwhile invites the rest of the class to guess on the correspondance between flags and countries. Finally the relevant countries are spotted on a European map by students. The poster is posted on a class wall.</p>	Paperboard/flags/ Picture of Beethoven/ Markers/ Glue/European Map	15-20 mns

September 26: European Day of Languages

▪ English Class activity

Work in pairs and try to fill-in the gaps of the sentences below, using the words from the box.

**French , countries , languages , watch,
communicate, September**

Facts about languages, language learning and Europe.

1. There are about 220 European today.
2. The most widely-used languages in Europe are English, German,.....,Russian and Italian.
3. All Europeanare about 50.
4. The European Day of Languages is celebrated on 26.
5. One way to learn English is towith English-speaking students through e-mails andfilms without subtitles.



Το σήμα της Ευρωπαϊκής Μέρας Γλωσσών.

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