

Macmillan Academy – ‘Culture Shock’ Lesson

Aim

To practise listening for specific information
To practise speaking

Level

Intermediate

Length

90 mins

Resources and materials

MEC resource ‘Language and culture’ (to find the resource write in “language and culture” in the Word and Phrase Search).

Extracts from the ‘Culture Shock’ lesson plan www.onestopenglish.com

Preparation

Open MEC up on an IWB or data projector and bookmark the MEC resource above.

Write on the flipchart or print out the questions you want to use during the lesson from ‘Culture Shock’.

1. Warm up

Open the ‘Language and Culture’ resource and cover the statements on the left. Ask learners a few questions about the picture: Where is he from? What does he do? What kind of person is he?

Uncover the statements on the left, and give learners a few minutes to read them.

Make sure they understand the statements.

2. 1st Listening

Learners listen to the conversation and answer the T/F statements. Learners check their answers in pairs. Teacher checks the answers with learners.

3. 2nd Listening

Open the flipchart with the questions to the 2nd listening (see below) or pass round a handout with the questions.

Organise learners in pairs and give them a few minutes to read the questions. Encourage learners to guess the answers. Learners listen and check their answers. Ask learners for feedback.

Open questions to 2nd listening

1. What is the problem at the beginning?
2. What words are important for English speaking people?
3. What form doesn’t the English language have?
4. How does it finish?

*Depending on the level of the class, you could open the audioscript or keep it closed.

Alternatively, you could open it during the 2nd listening or use the audioscript as a post-listening activity e.g. intonation, role play exercises.

4. Post-listening

Put learners in groups of three. Open the flipchart with the questions (see below) or pass round a handout. Give learners eight minutes to discuss the questions. Monitor your learners and help when necessary. At the end ask for their feedback.

Post-listening questions

1. Have you ever had similar problems to the people in the listening activity?
2. What were the sources of the problems?
3. How did they deal with them?

5. Speaking

Depending on the age of your learners you can either play hangman with the word 'ADAPTABLE' or write the word 'ADAPTABLE' on the board, and ask them to explain it to you.

When learners have finished open the flipchart with the questions (see below) or pass round a handout. Put learners in groups of 4-5 and give them 15mins. Monitor your learners and help when necessary. Ask learners for their feedback.

Post hangman questions

1. If you are adaptable, what can you do?
2. What kinds of people are adaptable?
3. People say cockroaches are very adaptable insects. Why is this?
4. Are you an adaptable person?

6. Optional activity

If some groups have finished early or you have some time left, you may want to give your learners different stages of culture shock to organise in order and discuss: acceptance, adaptation, honeymoon, shock, re-entry shock.

Key: Stages of culture shock

Honeymoon, shock, adaptation, acceptance, re-entry shock