

Ming-Ai (London) Institute “East West Festive Cultures” Project

Lesson Plan

Topic: Chinese Ghost Month

Key stage: KS4 or higher level

Age group: 14-16 years old

National Curriculum Subject: Modern Foreign Languages (Chinese Mandarin)

Requirements of students' Mandarin standard: basic knowledge of pinyin

Objectives

- Introduce Chinese Ghost Month and compare the Halloweens' in the western countries
- Build up vocabulary, grammar and culture knowledge
- How to write and use the character “鬼”
- Assess students learning outcome through classroom performance and homework

Learning outcomes

- Knowledge:
 - Better understanding of the Chinese Ghost Month
 - Understand the different attitudes towards the Ghosts in Chinese and Western cultures
- Skills:
 - Improving listening, speaking, reading and writing skills through various activities
 - Building up vocabulary, grammar points and sentence structures;
 - Enhanced pronunciation and communication skills
- Attitude:
 - Learn and respect for other cultures
 - Concerns the recycle and environment while enjoying the festivals

Differentiation

Ask the students to form pairs and practices words and find the opposites of the words and help each other to memorise the words.

Equipments & Teaching Materials

Computers, projectors, video clips, audio clips, images, flash cards and PowerPoint presentation.

Lesson Outline (60 minutes)

	Activities	Time
Starter	Show some videos or play audio clips and images related to the Chinese Ghost Month	5 mins
Introduction	- Background information about the Chinese Ghost Month (1 st Paragraph) - Some taboos during the festival	10 mins
Development	- New words in the text - Listening and reading activities - Grammar: Talking about the Ghost - “鬼” - Discussion: Suggestions on recycle and environment issues while enjoying the Halloween	40 mins
Conclusion/Plenary	To check learning outcome - Asking questions to guide the students review what they have learned in the class	5 mins

Homework / Extensive Activities

Search some more information about how people can celebrate festivals in a more environmental friendly way.

Assessment

Listening, speaking and writing skills

Reference

On “East West Festive Cultures” project website, find more photos and information about Chinese Ghost Month, comparison between Halloween and Chinese Ghost Month, oral history archive and PowerPoint Presentations.

Detailed Lesson Plan (60 mins)

Time	Content/Teacher Activity	Student Activity	Resources
5 mins	Show some videos or play audio clips or PowerPoint presentation (provided on project website) and images related to the Chinese Ghost Month	Whole class	Computer, projector , PPT presentation; Video or audio clips, images
10 mins	Background information about the Chinese Ghost Month (1 st Paragraph) : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When is the festival - What will the Chinese people do in the festival - Some taboos during the festival: try not to buy or sell house, moving home, get married or give birth etc. during the Ghost Month 	Whole class	PPT presentation; The text Flash Cards
15 mins	New words <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Flash cards b. Repeating c. Finding the opposites Listening and reading practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ask students to listen and practice reading the text - Ask students questions to make them understand better the contents of the text 	Whole Class Small groups practice	Flash cards PPT presentation
10 mins	Grammar: Talking about the Ghost - “鬼” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - original meaning - derogatory expression: such as 鬼天气, 酒鬼, 烟鬼, 胆小鬼 - complimentary expression: 鬼才, 小鬼 - Other typical term such as 日本鬼子, 洋鬼子 鬼佬 (compare: 老外) 	Whole class	PPT presentation; Cards and games
15 mins	- Discussion: Suggestions on recycle and environment issues while enjoying the Halloween e.g. no need to buy costumes each year and consider DIY costumes by using the old clothes; how to do with the sweets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use a PowerPoint presentation (Halloween and Chinese Ghost Month) provided on the project website 	Whole class In Groups	White board Computer, projector ,PowerPoint presentation
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asking questions to guide the students review what they have learned in the class - The different attitudes towards the Ghosts in Chinese and Western cultures - Giving students homework 	Whole class	

课文:

中国鬼节

在中国传统节日中，农历七月十五日这天是中元节，俗称鬼节。传说农历七月一日那一天开始，地狱大门打开，阴间地狱的鬼魂会放出来，要一直到农历七月三十一日才关鬼门。有些鬼魂有子孙、后代，便回家去接受祭飨；而孤魂野鬼就到处游荡找东西吃。据说，当日阎王也会披着盛装和众鬼们共度佳节，并且让我们活着的人一起为他们祝福，祝愿另外一个世界的人们心想事成，快乐享受人间没来得及享受的幸福。因此，我国许多地方将举办祭祀、参佛、烧纸钱、放河灯等活动以示思念和祝福。

而现在，中国有很多年轻人喜欢过西方的“鬼节”-- 即万圣节。他们不一定真正了解万圣节的起源。在万圣节可以穿上奇特的衣服，度过一个“疯狂”的夜晚，他们觉得很好玩。