

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

Lesson Plan

Topic: Comparing Halloween and Chinese Ghost Month

Key stage: KS4

Age group: 14-15 years old

National Curriculum Subject: History

Objectives

- To list 5 or 6 facts of Halloween and Chinese Ghost Month
- To describe the similarities
- To tell the differences
- To identify contributing factors (developmental)
- To appreciate the customs of different cultures

Learning outcomes

- Knowledge: be able to describe the differences and similarities of the two traditions
- Skills: be able to express understanding of the traditions using descriptive languages or drawing;
- Attitude: to improve understanding, appreciation of other cultures

Differentiation

More advanced students are facilitated to develop analytical skills.

Equipments & Teaching Materials

Computers, coloured printer, Internet access, projector, flip chart paper, coloured drawing pens, scissors, glue, blue tack and coloured paper.

Lesson Outline (90 mins)

	Activities	Time
Starter	To display some costumes and artefacts on PowerPoint, ask students to identify them and to have a brief discussion of them.	10 mins
Introduction	Introduce the objectives, divide students into groups of 5, and give each group a task sheet.	5 mins
Development	Students work in groups, research books and the Internet and produce flipchart presentations.	40 mins
	Students display flipchart presentation and give a brief description	25 mins
Conclusion/Plenary	Recap the main points from the presentations, use Q and A or ask each group to summarise the other group's work.	10 mins

Homework / Extension Activities

A 200 words essay on the difference and similarities of Halloween and Chinese Ghost Festival (see Home worksheet). Ask students to do a presentation.

Assessment

Writing and analytical skills

Reference

On "East West Festive Cultures" project website, find more photos and information about Halloween and Chinese Ghost Month, oral history archive and PowerPoint Presentation.

Halloween:

<http://www.halloween.com/>

Ghost Festival:

http://www.religionfacts.com/chinese_religion/holidays/ghost_festival.htm

Detailed Lesson Plan (90 mins)

Time	Content/Teacher Activity	Student Activity	Resources
10 mins	<p>To display some costumes and artefacts on PowerPoint, ask students to identify them and to have a brief discussion of them.</p> <p>Show students audio clips and PowerPoint presentation provided on “East West Festive Cultures” project website.</p>	Whole class	Computer and projector (to play PowerPoint presentation or audio clips)
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - divide students into groups of 5 and give each group a task sheet. - Introduce the objectives of the task, explain how they can search information on the internet more effective and more accurate. Use reliable sources, point out the importance of reference etc. 	Whole class groups	Task sheets
40 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students work in groups, research books and the Internet and produce flipchart presentations. - If internet access is not available in classroom, you can ask students to do the research at home and then form groups and prepare the presentation together in class. - Help students to summarise all group members' finding and do a presentation. 	Groups	PowerPoint presentation
25 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Let students display flipchart presentation and ask other students to comment. - When presentations are finished, ask students to compare the similarity and difference between these two festivals. 	Whole class Small group	Flipchart, colour pens
5 mins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Recap the main points from the presentations, use Q and A or ask each group to summarise the other group's work. - Distribute the home worksheet 	Whole class	Home worksheet



Task 1

In your group, use the books and the Internet to find the following information about Halloween

1. When did Halloween start?
2. What countries or regions celebrate Halloween?
3. Summarize the story associated with the origin of Halloween?
4. What's the purpose of celebrating Halloween?
5. What do people do around the time of Halloween?
6. Illustrate or display one or two typical costumes people wear for Halloween?
7. Is Halloween important? If yes, why?
8. Design a poster to help your classmates to understand Chinese Ghost Festival. You may print out images, cut and paste on your flipchart paper or draw them by hand. Tools are provided.
9. Present your finding to the class.



Task 2

In your group, use the books and the Internet to find the following information about Chinese Ghost Festival

1. When did Chinese Ghost Festival start?
2. What countries or regions celebrate the Chinese Ghost Festival?
3. Summarize the story associated with the origin of the Chinese Ghost Festival?
4. What's the purpose of celebrating the Chinese Ghost Festival?
5. What do people do to celebrate the Chinese Ghost Festival?
6. Illustrate or display one or two typical costumes people wear for the Chinese Ghost Festival?
7. Is the Chinese Ghost Festival important for people celebrating it? If yes, why?
8. Design a poster to help your classmates to understand Chinese Ghost Festival. You may print out images, cut and paste on your flipchart paper or draw them by hand. Tools are provided.
9. Present your finding to the class.



Homework

Write an essay on the difference and similarities of Halloween and Chinese Ghost Festival. Essays should be no more than 200 words and should include:

1. An introduction
A very short description of Halloween and Chinese Ghost Festival, including their origins and areas celebrating them
2. The differences of the two traditions
3. The similarities of the two traditions
4. Explain why people celebrate them by looking into factors such as historical context, belief and religious influence.