

languages ICT

Using ICT effectively at Key Stage 4

Teaching about modern France

Useful site: www.monjquotidien.com (researched March2008)

Mon J-T Quotidien is aimed at children in France and offers constantly updated news items.

The news items are short and feature video clips, a transcript and tabs to enable students to access a map of where in the world the news item comes from, and a short multiple choice self-marking quiz on the news item. There is also an archive of recent materials.

For teaching and learning

Use of this site will give students valuable additional practice in listening and reading at higher level, widen their vocabulary and provide interesting cultural information.

Ideas from the news items on the site could be used to resource extended writing or oral work for the examination. The teacher could use the scripts to devise preparatory or consolidatory language activities for use with the whole class and for independent student work.

The activities suggested below will be appropriate for more able KS4 students.

A news item could be selected by the teacher and viewed in advance of the lesson. This could be exploited in the lesson by showing the video with the transcript and helping the students to pick out the key points. The quiz questions could be done with the class as a whole deciding upon the answers.

The students could then access a news report which interests them and listen to the clip and read the script. They could then make notes on the content to be fed back to the rest of the class.

More creative work might involve students researching the Internet to find suitable images on a news theme and using them with language learnt from Mon JT Quotidien to produce a slide show in Windows Movie Maker. They could record their own scripts to match the images they have found.

Students should be reminded that the archive gives access to a greater range of materials.

Another source of simple news items to read is to be found at www.lesclesjunior.com

Why this site was chosen

The short news clips and supporting transcript and map on this site are a valuable aid for GCSE students. Information on current affairs in French can be found online but is usually too difficult for GCSE level students to access because of the speed of delivery and lack of transcript.

About the 'Using ICT effectively at Key Stage 4' series

www.languages-ict.org.uk/technology/ks4.htm

This series of advice sheets deals with the effective use of ICT at Key Stage 4 for teachers of modern languages. The series focuses on online resources characterised by their richness and potential for stimulating teaching and learning languages, particularly French, German and Spanish, at Key Stage 4. It is hoped that the suggestions and ideas put forward in the sheets will be of use to teachers of other languages.

The sites were chosen as useful resources for teachers dealing with topic areas which, for various reasons, may be classed as 'hard to teach' at Key Stage 4.

The sites chosen are not presented in any way by CILT, ALL or Becta as unique or comprehensive and no responsibility is taken for any changes which may take place subsequent to this research.

The sheets were researched and written by a small team of consultants working on behalf of CILT, the National Centre for Languages.

All advice and references in the series refer to content as found during the first quarter of 2008.

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