

languages ICT

Using ICT effectively at Key Stage 4

Teaching about buying rail tickets and asking for directions in French

Useful site: <http://lexiquefle.free.fr> (researched March2008)

Lexiquefle is a website for French learners to enable them to improve their vocabulary through click and play activities.

The site deals with a number of topics which are all relevant to the GCSE. Currently these are

- Parts of the body
- Family members
- Numbers
- Time
- Alphabet
- Animals
- European countries
- At the train station
- Telephone
- In town
- In my house
- Clothing

The vocabulary is introduced through click and play activities. There are listening activities and exercises based on the vocabulary for each topic. All of the activities can be downloaded and played offline.

For teaching and learning

The suggestions in this advice sheet focus on asking for directions and buying rail tickets.

The train station topic can be used in class with the teacher showing the train ticket to the students and exploiting it orally. The dialogue can then be listened to as a full class activity. All of the key vocabulary in the dialogue is underlined and when clicked upon, gives a visual explanation which the teacher can use to explain terms further in French if necessary. There are some listening exercises which could either be done by the students individually or by the class as a whole.

The downtown topic deals with the subject of giving directions around town. The teacher could introduce the key vocabulary and verbs and dialogues where directions are being given. Students can then use the material independently to listen again and complete the exercises.

Topics such as family members, numbers, time and alphabet are excellent revision tools particularly for the weaker GCSE candidates who may need reminding of these.

This is a good site for foundation GCSE students when revising, particularly for their listening examination, as it has useful basic exercises which they should find helpful.

Why this site was chosen

The topics on the site have often been covered in KS3 and although students may need to revise these topics, it is often quite tedious. Role plays such as directions around the town and buying rail tickets are not easy to resource with on-line activities but appear on this site.

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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