

languages ICT

Using ICT effectively at Key Stage 4

Teaching about the world of work in French

Useful site: www.bonjourdefrance.com (researched March 2008)

Bonjour de France is an online French course for teachers and learners of French.

The site contains a range of resources which can be used with GCSE students. For covering the world of work, the section Le Français des Affaires provides listening comprehension, self-marking comprehension exercises, an interactive job application template, sample job adverts and links to key terminology.

Other areas of the site are as follows:

Comprehension: There are comprehension exercises at various levels (beginner, elementary, intermediate and advanced). The first three categories are appropriate for GCSE level. Each comprehension has a text and audio version and accompanying exercise which is self-marking and gives feedback on correct and incorrect answers. The text version has a glossary in French of possible unfamiliar terms.

Grammar: There are self-marking grammar exercises to be completed on-screen. There are separate exercises for students and supplementary ones for teachers to use when working with the class.

Vocabulary: The vocabulary section has self-marking exercises and games to practise vocabulary.

Section for teachers: This section has tasks for teachers to use when working with classes.

Simulations: This section has extended simulation activities which could be used over a period of several lessons and has detailed instructions and links to authentic French websites.

There are also sections on French idiomatic expressions, games and a discovery section which introduces regions of France and local recipes.

For teaching and learning

The business section of the site is most appropriate for candidates aiming at A*–C grade in the GCSE.

The business letter can be used to teach the full class the correct layout and common letter writing expressions. The teacher could show each section of the letter and by clicking on each box can give the class an explanation of how to construct a formal letter.

The job advertisements, job application letter and interview can be accessed individually by the students who can work through the exercises. The resource will give useful vocabulary which students can incorporate in their own formal letters of application.

In the comprehension section there are useful work-related role plays (looking for a part-time job and placing a telephone order) which could be used with candidates of all abilities

Why this topic was chosen

Job application letters, CVs and job advertisements appear in textbooks but it can be difficult to find other good examples. This site has some good exercises in itself and links to other good sites.

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.

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