

languages ICT

Using ICT effectively at Key Stage 4

Teaching about entertainment in French

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

Ramdam is a French music site aimed at young people in France. The site has video clips of songs from a range of artists, details of latest news in the musical world, biographies of singers and musicians and forums where opinions can be exchanged. There is a search facility which enables users of the site to look for information on different artists.

For teaching and learning

The teacher could present the site to the class on a whiteboard and demonstrate the use of each of the tabs and the sort of information which can be found on each link.

The site could be exploited in various ways. Having listened to a song in advance, the teacher could provide a gap-fill exercise of the words which the students could use as a listening activity.

The biographies of the different artists could be used as a whole-class reading activity. The teacher may need to identify some key vocabulary in advance and could provide an exercise based on the biography or a template to be completed by extracting information from it.

Students could then select an artist of their own choice to research on the site. Depending on ability, the teachers could provide questions in French which need to be answered in full sentences in French or could ask the students to summarise the information about the artist in English.

Information from the site could be used as a starting point for a piece of writing or an oral presentation about an artist of the student's choice. Weaker students could be provided with frames to assist them. This could form an assessment task for the GCSE examination.

Other useful sites for further research might be:

www.momes.net/musique

<http://videos.tf1.fr/video/musique>

Why this site was chosen

This site gives students exposure to musicians popular in France and provides useful terminology for the world of music. As musical genres and vocabulary are constantly changing this site gives current information which may be difficult to access from textbooks or other sources.

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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