

languages ICT

Using ICT effectively at Key Stage 4

Teaching about accidents and emergencies in Spanish

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

Accidentes en los niños is a Chilean site dedicated to the prevention of accidents, especially among children.

The site contains information about accidents that children and young people can sustain inside and outside of the home and while doing sports. It provides information about how to prevent these accidents. It also gives statistics about how often children in Chile suffer from certain accidents.

For teaching and learning

The home page of the site can first be viewed on an interactive whiteboard or screen in order to examine the types of accidents or sports where accidents can happen. More able students could predict what type of accidents might happen in the different categories. This would be a useful brainstorming and language building exercise prior to further exploration of the site.

Students can look at a particular accident category and read the advice given to avoid the accidents. This advice is given in the imperative and so is a good model for giving instructions. For more able or advanced students this is an opportunity to engage with the negative imperative.

Students can consolidate and extend learning by completing interactive exercises prepared by the teacher and placed on the network. Activities can range from gap-fill activities to text reconstruction based on adverts taken from the site.

Independent work may consist of studying the advice on the site in order to build up a personal vocabulary bank to use in further work on the topic.

Higher level students could create their own list of advice for new parents or they could create a role play about an imaginary accident, such as a skiing accident, based on the information on the website. This could be recorded as well as written. Other audio work may consist of a set of tips on how to avoid accidents. The language focus could be the use of the imperative. This could be placed online as a podcast for others to use as a resource.

Why this site was chosen

The topic of accidents, emergencies and illnesses can be difficult to cover in an interesting way at GCSE. At least some of this site especially the parts dealing with sports such as skiing and motorcycling, will be interesting and relevant to KS4 students.

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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