

# languages ICT

## Using ICT effectively at Key Stage 4

### **Teaching about personal information in Spanish**

#### **Useful site: [www.pequenet.com](http://www.pequenet.com) (researched March2008)**

Pequenet is a Spanish children's website, which offers a wealth of authentic resources aimed at children and is a place where children can publish their jokes, tongue twisters and stories. There are also well known fairy tales, songs and games.

#### **For teaching and learning**

In the 'Nuestros Habitantes' section there is an interview with the Monstruo del Armario, which gives some detail about what the monster eats, his daily routine and like and dislikes, all similar to the personal information questions in the GCSE speaking examination. Students could use this text as a reading comprehension or use it as a model to create similar spoof answers about an imaginary or well known character.

The Chistes is a useful authentic resource for jokes which can be used for starter activities. The jokes are split into different categories such as doctor jokes and animals. It will be a challenge for students to both understand the short text and then to work out the humour. Students could also compare the type of humour found, for example with English doctor jokes.

In a similar way, the Trabalenguas tongue twisters can be used as a challenge at the beginning of a lesson, asking the students to make their pronunciation sound as Spanish as possible.

Other text from the site, such as the Lecturas section, which contains book reviews, can be used by the teacher to create activities using authoring software or electronic worksheets.

The Fichas del Profesor section, although aimed at younger children, in the primaria section contains suggestions for teachers with links to archived material which includes topics like healthy eating and cross-cultural issues such as Christmas in Spain.

#### **Why this site was chosen**

Several different topics can be covered through this site, such as personal information in the Nuestros Habitantes section. This is a topic which is done in KS3 but needs to be deepened in KS4. Fresh stimuli should provide a new impetus for learners.

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

[www.languages-ict.org.uk/technology/ks4.htm](http://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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