

languages ICT

Using ICT effectively at Key Stage 4

Teaching about shopping in Spanish

Useful site: www.elcorteingles.es (researched March 2008)

This is the website of Spain's famous department store, El Corte Inglés, and offers an exciting and attractive resource to exploit the topic of shopping. The website is organised into different departments, such as the supermarket, books, music, clothes, furniture, jewellery, sport and toys. Topics other than shopping can be covered through this site, including food, clothes and house and home.

For teaching and learning

Access the company web site on the interactive whiteboard or screen and use the images there to review known language and to discuss, for example, more specialised language for clothing and food.

Work with the features of the interactive whiteboard to present new vocabulary which students will find when working on the site themselves. Ensure the € symbol is in the image resource bank for the interactive whiteboard and design some drag and drop pricing activities around the theme of shopping.

Prices may be converted to British pounds using a currency converter such as that found at www.xe.com/ucc/es, thereby enabling students to discuss and compare prices in Spain and the United Kingdom.

The images and vocabulary found on the site can also be used to create interactive games with authoring software or electronic worksheets. These can be accessed on the interactive whiteboard to reinforce the language of the topic.

Students can consolidate and extend learning by completing tasks such as a webquest prepared by the teacher and placed on the network.

For Foundation level students this may take the form of a challenge for students to purchase a particular outfit or basket of shopping within a specified budget.

For higher level students, more focus on the text such as the special offers and features on the home page would be appropriate. They can also look at the Lo más vendido section to see which are currently the most popular books, music and films in Spain.

Students could also create role play scenarios in pairs based on purchasing and trying on, for example, certain clothes, or taking back clothes if there is a problem.

Why this site was chosen

The site provides an enjoyable and easy way to broaden vocabulary and brings new life to a topic which will have been explored in KS3. Because the site is a real one that Spanish people use it is motivating for students to navigate through and to look at the type of products that are popular in Spain.

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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