



19. MOTIVATION

How to use chat as a pedagogical tool

CONTEXT

Participants in a cultural meeting in distance sessions focus mainly on oral communication. However, written messages sent to some or all participants can save time in interactions or help to better grasp more complex information.

THEORETICAL BASIS

The moderator can use the chat and emoticons offered by many synchronous virtual platforms as a pedagogical tool so that the whole class can participate. In this way, the participants can write their answers, and the monitoring of acquired knowledge is made easier as everyone can give their opinion. Other applications that might also help in monitoring are Kahoot, Wordwall, Padlet, Flenga, and Nearpod.

ACTIVITY IN A NUTSHELL

A cultural education activity that aims to make cultural heritage elements known in a non-formal way. The participants themselves share the information among peer-learners in a horizontal and playful way.

Activity/Solutions

CONTACT TYPE

Online

TIME NEEDED

30-60 minutes

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

3-15

ACTIVITY TYPE

Group work

TARGET GROUP

- All target groups

VARIATION OF THE ACTIVITY

This activity can be done face-to-face, for example, in a media library, where participants can do some preliminary bibliographic research themselves to present objects to others. In this kind of setting, the five sentences can be communicated orally.

Goal

- To diversify the means of communication in a distance interaction during a Zoom session.
- To learn how to choose a succinct form of written communication during a virtual meeting.

How to prepare

- Prepare fact sheets on a topic (e.g. architectural and cultural heritage of a region), and choose traditional objects (as many as there are participants) whose use or function is not easy to guess at first sight. The description sheets contain a photo and a presentation of each object (function, date, material, manufacturing process, regional particularity, etc.).
- The selected objects can be a traditional tool of a craftsman, a kitchen utensil, an element of traditional architecture, etc.

Activity step by step

1. Give each participant a photo and a description of an object, without showing the description to the others. Each participant should have a different object. The participants must write five sentences describing the object, three of which must be true and two false.
2. Ask the participants to form small groups, and in turn, each participant presents the photo and sends the five sentences to the others via chat.
3. Instruct that the other members of the group must guess which of the sentences are false and a short discussion can follow.
4. Create new groups until the participants have discovered each of the objects.
5. At the end of the activity, ask each participant to summarise the true sentences and show again the photo of the object.