

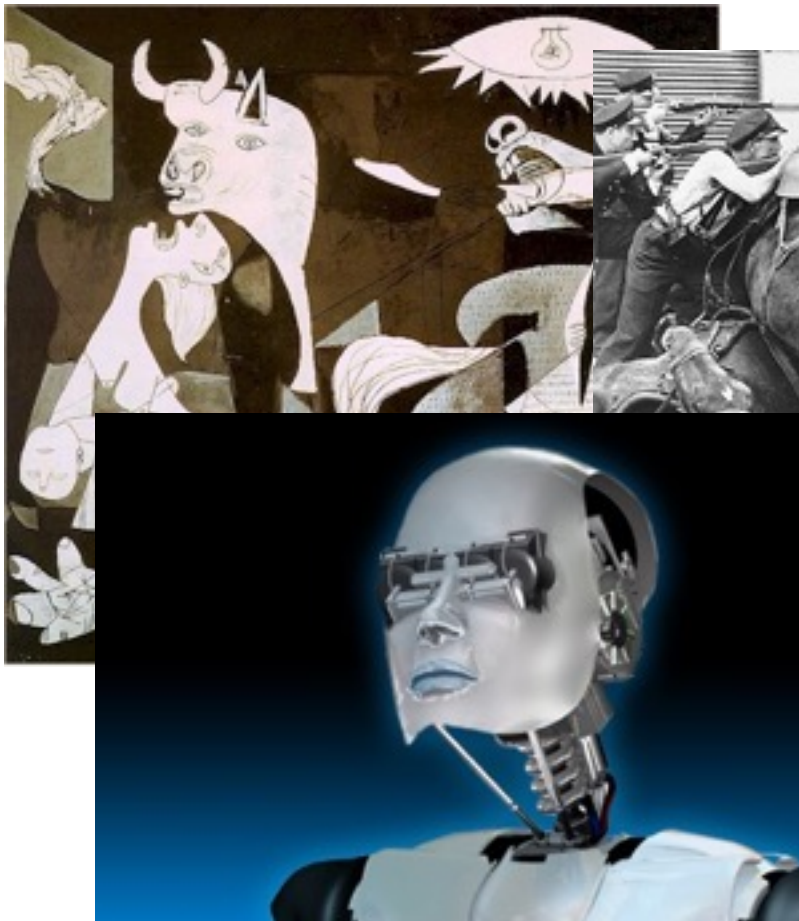
The 4 Cs

Roger Hunt

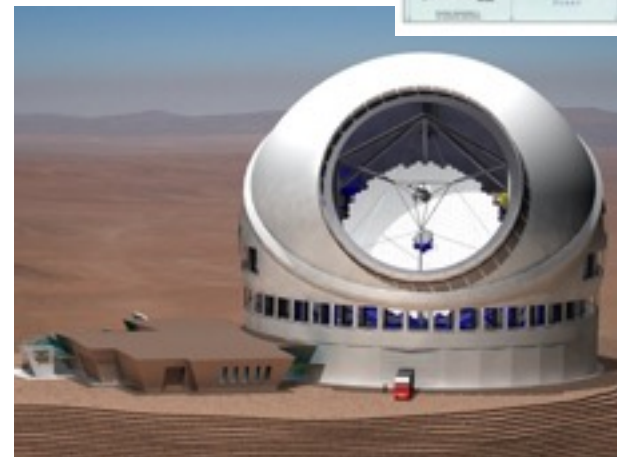
International House Barcelona
ELT Conference 2010

C = Content

- Curricular subjects apart from languages



E=MC²



C = Communication

- Learners are encouraged to produce the language of the subject orally as well as in writing
- Participate in meaningful interaction.
- Maximise student talking time
- Teacher as guide/facilitator

C = Culture

- Learners are encouraged to think of themselves as part of a larger group in society/community/civilisation and to be aware of how others live and learn



President Barack Obama is greeted by Japanese Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko upon arrival at the Imperial Palace in Tokyo. Photo: REUTERS



C = Cognition



- Age: YL vs Adults
- CLIL is said to promote cognitive skills which challenge learners.
- concrete thinking skills such as remembering, identifying, comparing, contrasting and defining
- academic, abstract thinking skills are also developed: reasoning, creative thinking and evaluating

Sample lesson 1: Text reformulation

Arrangement in Grey and Black: The Artist's Mother (Whistler's Mother)

By James McNeill Whistler



- *Do you like the picture?*
- *What can you see in the picture?*
- *How does it make you feel?*
- *Do you know anything about the artist who painted it?*

Wikipedia text

- Anna McNeill Whistler posed for the painting while living in London with her son. Several unverifiable stories surround the making of the painting itself; one is that Anna Whistler acted as a replacement for another model who couldn't make the appointment. Another is that Whistler originally envisioned painting the model standing up, but that his mother was too uncomfortable to pose standing for an extended period.

Bullet point version

- Anna Whistler posed for the painting
- She was living in London
- She was living with her son
- There are many stories about the painting
- One story suggests Anna Whistler was not the intended model
- Another suggests Whistler wanted a standing model.
- His mother didn't want to stand, so she sat

Language focus

- Anna McNeill Whistler posed for the **painting** while **living** in London with her son. Several unverifiable stories surround the **making** of the painting itself; one is that Anna Whistler acted as a replacement for another model who couldn't make the appointment. Another is that Whistler originally envisioned **painting** the model **standing** up, but that his mother was too uncomfortable to pose **standing** for an extended period.

Lesson template plan 1

The 4Cs???

- Stimulate interest eg: discuss a picture/
headline/title/topic
- Read and react to text content
- Reconstruct (a section of) the text
- Compare with original and discuss
language content
- Parallel & personalise: students speak or
write about personal preferences

Lesson template 2: Describing processes

Water

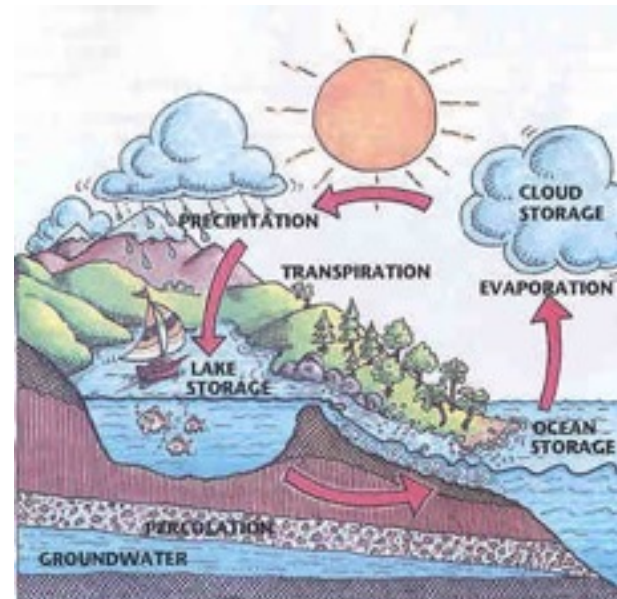


Vocabulary

- Water in the air: cloud, mist, fog, rain, snow, etc
- Water on the earth: river, stream, sea, ocean, etc
- Water in the home: shower, bath, drinking water, etc
- Verbs about water: wash, rain, drink, flood, etc

Water processes for description

- the water cycle
- how to wash clothes in a washing machine
- how to wash a dog
- water erosion such as flash floods in deserts
- etc.



Lesson template plan 2

The 4Cs???

- Topic into eg: picture, title, etc
- Vocabulary involved in process eg: categories
- Describe the process (eg: from pictures which the students find on-line) NB: Content obligatory language?
- Report back eg: each group gives a presentation

Other processes

- making paper
- origami
- building a garden shed
- driving a car
- baking a pie or loaf of bread
- bathing a baby
- writing an essay
- building a skyscraper
- etc etc

Note that Wikipedia is a useful source of information for this type of lesson



Geography Quiz

Are the following True or False?

- The Mississippi is the longest river in the world.
- Paris is bigger than London.
- The Atacama Desert is the driest place on earth.
- Rome is older than London.
- Everest is the highest mountain on earth.
- Lake Baikal is deeper than the Caspian Sea.
- The Grand Canyon is more than 1,000 kilometres long.
- The oldest pyramids in the world are in Mexico.
- The Atlas Mountains are higher than the Alps.
- Brazil is larger than France.

Lesson Template 3

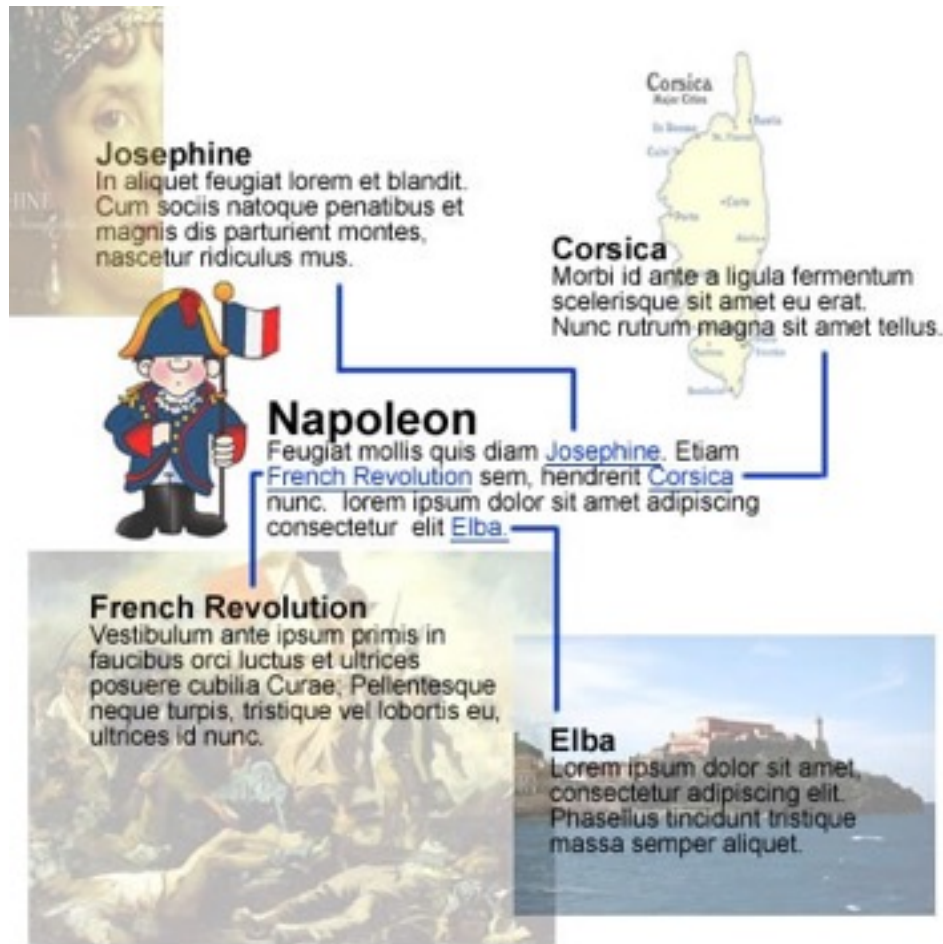
The 4Cs???

- Give quiz to teams – a prize for the winners (?)
- Teams write their own quizzes (plus language focus)
- Teams answer each other's quizzes
- **Quiz topics:** geography, history, famous people, sport, music, cinema, TV programmes, science, stars and planets, inventions and inventors, course books, etc etc etc

Variation on quiz template lesson

- *Dictate questions, students answer then reconstruct questions from their answers*
- When was penicillin discovered?
- Who was found in the bulrushes?
- What was Stevenson's steam engine called?
- Name the person who invented the lightbulb.
- Where can you find a person who grows rice?
- What was the name of the Sherpa who accompanied Edmund Hilary to the top of Everest?

Lesson template 4: non-linear narrative



Summary

- Non-linear narrative does not necessarily have a beginning, middle and end; instead it can head in numerous directions much as with the on-line encyclopaedia Wikipedia.
- In the classroom this means that one group of students might be researching Napoleon's biographical details, while another might be finding out all they can about the French Revolution and other groups might be researching Elba, Corsica or any other related topics. Each group produces text, maps, pictures or diagrams on their topic
- these are then 'joined' together to make up one overall, large-scale project which can be displayed on the classroom wall (see example, above).

4C principles

- Creativity
- Centredness (Teacher/student)
- Socio-construct
- Dealing with emergent language
- Holism vs atomism
- Research (eg: Wikipedia, Google images)
- Personalisation
- Purpose
- Challenge
- Safety

“You cannot teach a language, only create the conditions under which it might be learned”

Von Humboldt 1898

Thank you!

This PowerPoint is available at:

www.ihes.com/bcn/tt/conference.html

On-line CLIL course:

www.ihes.com/bcn/tt/online/clil.html