Cultural Identity Lesson Plan

Age: 15-18

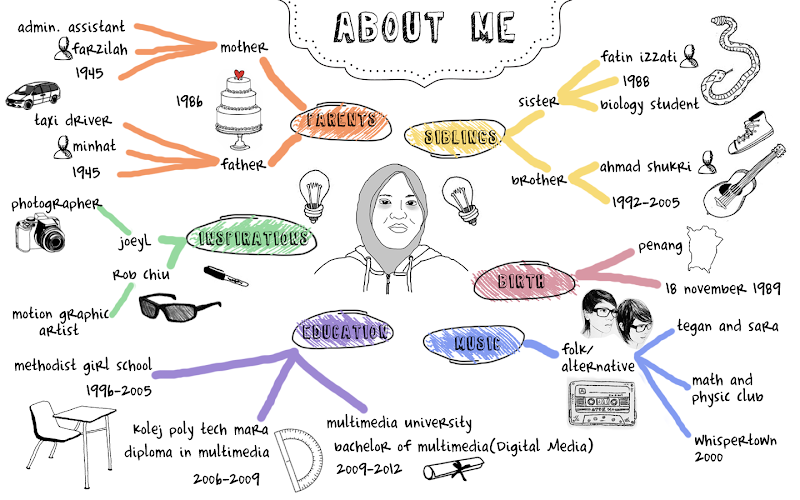
Goals: Introduction to culture and cultural identity, definition of culture, respectfulness towards other cultures

# 1. Warm-up activity (10 mins)

- Aids: Papers, pens

- Make a mind map of your identity, you’re in the centre. What makes you, you? It can be anything – your personality traits, hobbies, friends, religion, gender etc. (5 mins)

inspiration (if needed):



<https://creativotion.blogspot.com/2010/02/about-me-mind-map.html>

- Divide into pairs and look at each other’s mind maps. Do you have any similarities? What are the biggest differences? Pick 2 things to share with the rest of the class. (5 mins)

# 2. Discussion (15 mins)

- Aids: Projector, PC, mind maps from previous excercise

- Show definition of culture from National Geographic: <https://education.nationalgeographic.org/resource/resource-library-cultural-identity/>

- Divide students into groups of 4.

- Discussion: Have you ever thought about your behaviour in the context of your culture? What do you think you would be doing differently if you were part of a different culture? Would you have the same hobbies, music taste?

- Come back to your mind maps – can you identify which of your traits, hobbies etc. are directly connected to your culture (your religion, nationality, traditions…)?

# 3. Video + discussion (15 mins)

- Aids: Projector, PC, pens, papers

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wSlJjtorRig&ab_channel=StudyHall>

Questions:

1. What can understanding identity and culture better help us with?

(Communicate more intentionally, rather than being surprised by something we deem “not normal”)

2. What are some things our identity can be “made out of”? (Name at least 3 things)

(Nationality, ethnicity, gender, political and religious affiliations, family background.)

3. What is the difference between dynamic and fixed identity?

(Fixed – we continue being ourselves over time, dynamic – our identities grow and change with us over time)

4. What aspects does culture include? (Name at least 2)

(Shared symbols, values, languages, traditions.)

After the video:

- Check answers

- Discussion: Think about Neil’s situation with concussion and the clashing of his culture circles. Have you ever experienced something similar? (whole class guided discussion)

# 4. What we learned (5 mins)

What is culture and cultural identity?

What aspects does culture include?

Dynamic/fixed identity?

The main point: We need to respect each other’s cultures and cultural identities, it can help us prevent miscommunications and conflicts.