### Workshops - February 2024

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ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΠΑΙΔΕΙΑΣ, ΑΘΛΗΤΙΣΜΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΝΕΟΛΑΙΑΣ WWW.MOEC.GOV.CY

### OVERVIEW

- ► The importance of setting our Shared Vision as Teachers of English
- Reconsidering our teaching practices
- The importance of enhancing our Ss' autonomy/ Self regulated learning/ creativity/ critical thinking- Keys to motivating our students
- Creating lesson plans based on the principles of autonomous learning/self-regulation while using digital tools/motivation/creativity/critical thinking

#### Sharing a common vision

Why is it important to create and share a common focus in our profession? Discuss the question with your colleagues/2 minutes

#### The importance of a shared vision

- A shared vision can align teachers around a common direction to pursue/it clarifies the general direction of change
- It can increase teachers' motivation, commitment and performance/ It can enhance our self-confidence/selfefficacy/collaboration with our colleagues
- It can lead to our Ss' improvement of learning outcomes

## Two Prime Objectives of our shared vision

Set 2 objectives with your colleagues/2 minutes

#### Working towards two common objectives

- Being professional in our job/ Working together as teachers/ Sharing bestpractices/material/ Co-teaching/Attending seminars/webinars/Being very wellprepared/Creating proper Lesson plans based on CEFR descriptors/ What Ss can do/ Setting Teaching targets/Attainment targets
- Our students to learn/ achieve key competences for lifelong learning such as skills/attitudes/values/ social inclusion/active citizenship/cultural awareness/creativity/critical thinking/autonomy/ authentic learning/experiential learning/collaborative learning

## Revisiting our teaching-learning process

Do you think we need to reconsider our teaching practices?

- (Re) gaining our Ss' interest/motivation throughout the teaching-learning process is of utmost importance
- Fostering autonomous/self-regulated learning/creativity/critical thinking skills

#### Autonomous learning

- An autonomous learner will set their own learning goals, choose their own tasks and exercises, and seek out opportunities to apply their knowledge outside the classroom.
- Language Rooms- Use of laptops/tablets/mobile phones-Use of educational websites/Digital tools for autonomous learning
- The teacher acts as a facilitator to help, guide, and direct the learning process

# Characteristics of an autonomous/self-regulated learner

- methodical/disciplined/responsible
- Iogical/analytical
- ▶ reflective/self-aware
- motivated/curious
- interdependent/interpersonally competent/ Being able to collaborate with others
- persistent/creative

# The key elements of autonomous learning:

- Learners can identify and set their own learning goals
- Learners plan and perform their learning activities
- Learners are able to reflect on their learning and evaluate their progress
- Learners understand the purpose of learning
- Learners understand their own learning processes
- Learners can apply a range of learning strategies in different contexts

# How can teachers enhance Ss' autonomy?

- Making lessons meaningful/purposeful
- Setting tasks that encourage autonomous learning/motivation
- Fostering experiential/collaborative learning
- Establishing positive student-teacher relationships
- Facilitating and guiding Ss during student-centered activities

#### Enhancing our Ss' autonomy

- Learners need to see opportunities for growth and success
- Teachers are the ones to enhance student autonomy/ selfregulation/creativity/critical thinking in class
- Implementing Authentic learning (Ss explore-discuss-work in groups-present)
- Implementing the 'THINK-PAIR-SHARE' strategy
- Teaching your Ss to take initiatives/ Let Ss work independently/in pairs/groups

### Think- Pair-Share A collaborative learning Strategy

#### This strategy requires students to:

- think individually about a topic
- share ideas with classmates
- present their own work

It maximizes autonomy, motivation, participation /engages Ss in comprehending the teaching material/ applying it in real-life situations

#### Activities which can foster autonomy/creativity/reflection

- > Debates/ Oral presentations/short talks/ round table discussions
- Seminars-Ss choose a subject, do research, work with their classmates, present their work in front of an audience/ Ss who attend fill in a criteria list for peer assessment
- Technology-based activities/Use of Language rooms/Use of educational websites/use of online dictionaries
- Group writing projects- Creation of posters Authentic learning/THINK-PAIR-SHARE
- Student surveys/ creation of videos/e-portfolios
- Roleplaying activities/ Use of games/ Quizzes/Songs/Taking part in European Programmes/ Organising activities/theatrical performances for the World Poetry Day- 21<sup>st</sup> March/ the World Theatre Day- 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024
- Student-created self-assessment sheets/use of templates
- > Ask Ss to design their own tasks/activities
- > Assign reflective activities to spark student reflection/Use of entry/exit cards

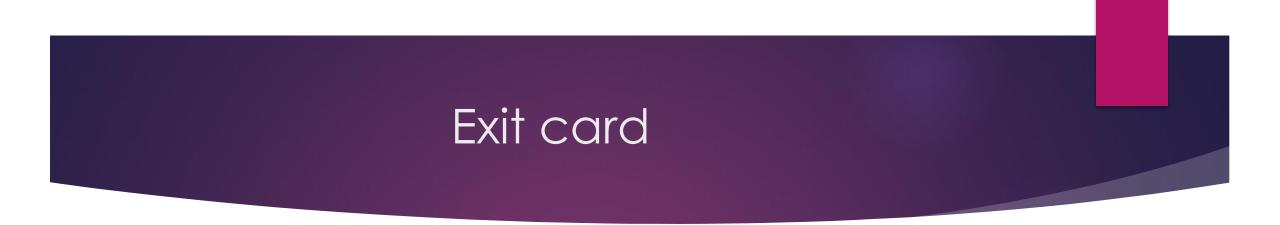
#### Create a lesson plan which can enhance Ss' autonomy/creativity/reflection

#### TEMPLATE

- ► Thematic Unit/CEFR Level
- CEFR Descriptors
- Attainment Targets
- Teaching Targets
- Prior Knowledge
- Procedure/Activities(Implementation of 4 skills-Listening/Speaking/Reading/Writing)
- Closure/Reflective Process
- Resources/Materials



### Teachers present their lesson plans to their colleagues



#### What do you keep from today's workshop?



## Things to remember before leaving this room!

- Setting a shared vision/ Professional development-Creating Learning communities in schools /Collaboration-Sharing material-best practices- Coteaching/ Ss to learn/Improving Ss' learning outcomes
- The importance to enhance autonomous learning/creativity/critical thinking in student-centered environments
- Let your Ss flourish by teaching them to take initiatives
- ► MOST IMPORTANTLY SHOW LOVE/SUPPORT/RESPECT TO YOUR STUDENTS!!!

#### References

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- https://www.britishcouncil.org/voices-magazine/how-keep-your-students-motivated
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