



FIRST LESSON

The students are led to observe and describe this picture.

What do you see?

What is the child looking at?

Where is he?

Same condition as yours?... Sensations?

We try to think about these two months.

What has they meant to all of us?

We create a first word cloud about it and we name it: "Two months at home".

(the website for the word cloud is www.wordart.com)

<https://wordart.com/16mmn4u4xmtp/word-art%202>

This word cloud is created together, we choose the shape, the colours of the words, and so on... then they have a task: create a new one to be dedicated to a favourite friend, a relative they miss, anyone they want to choose.

During the video lesson I share my display and I teach them how to use this website and how to open "Whatsapp web" on their Google page, so that they can copy the link of their work and paste it inside a Whatsapp message.

ASSIGNMENT:

They send their new *word cloud* to the chosen person via Whatsapp, plus they let me have the work and let me know whom it has been dedicated to.

SECOND LESSON

The next step of our LEARNING UNIT is inside the class project: “Exchange with Finland”.

In fact we have received letters from Finland!

Name of the activity: “A letter from my Quarantine”.

As a start of this second lesson the students are asked to read the letters that each of them has received from their twinned students.

We have the Opportunity to discuss about the finnish habits: all children and youngs have a trampoline in their garden, they often go in the forest for a walk, they miss school because it was an occasion to meet their friends every day (just as us), they have video lessons every day (just as us), the have a very early dinner!!! (five p.m!!!!), and so on...

Before writing our answers we build a new *word cloud* about a new concept: OPPORTUNITY.

I open a shared file which they simultaneously have to fill in.

The students express their idea of “opportunity” and everyone writes his/her individual idea on our worksheet.

- What do we mean by “having an opportunity”?
- Do you ever think about the positive results or the unexpected consequences of what happens to you? Even if you are facing a tough moment?

This time the *word cloud* must be with sentences.

Then we open a class debate about the peculiar words that the students have chosen.

ASSIGNMENT:

Write your letter and talking about your personal experience.

And doing it keep in mind these following questions:

- 1) Do you wake up early or late?
- 2) Do you have many video lessons?
- 3) Do you sleep well?
- 4) How do you spend your free time? You read/cook/draw/help at home....(what else?)

- 5) How much of your time is dedicated to a display (playstation, TV, video games, mobile phone, tablet....)
- 6) Are you moving somehow (doing gymnastic in your room, playing basketball in your garden, walking the dog...)
- 7) Do you play board games with your family?
- 8) Have you found a special/different/original activity to make alone or with your family? Describe it.*

*Pay particular attention to this last point: relate about something new you have experienced during this quarantine.

It can be anything!

For example some of you could refer about your better relationship with your sisters and/or brothers, some could speak about your new interest in a new topic (a book/tv genre..), some could say that they have started talking/thinking about their future (and then about now choices about schools and jobs), some could say that they now have a better interaction with their parents... and so on.

THIRD LESSON

We start reading some letters before sending them to Finland.
We exchange our ideas, our thoughts and points of view.

Watching-a-video activity from the website tallatale.eu:

Storyteller Richard Martin tells “Birbal and Akbar's Missing Thumb”(an indian story).



He often says: “This must be for the good. Remember, everything happens for a reason!”

This began to grate on Akbar.

The plot in brief:

Akbar and Birbal went hunting in hills but they only took two soldiers.

Dangerous tribes lived nearby, savages. They made a superstitious practice: they sacrificed prisoners to their gods and then they ate them!

Akbar fired, but missed the target. Birbal said: “This must be for the good. Remember...”.

Akbar fired again, but the top of his thumb blew. Birbal said again: “This must be for the good!”

Akbar exploded. “How can losing my thumb possibly be good? Had enough of such idiocy. Soldiers, take this fool back to palace, beat him well and hang him at dawn!”

Akbar left alone was soon surrounded by savages. When savages saw his wounded hand superstition forbade them from sacrificing anything to their gods which was blemished. Therefore they untied Akbar and let him go free.

Akbar went back home and found Birbal at dawn.

A: “My wise and faithful friend, can you forgive my injustice to you!”

B: “But it was all for the good!”

A: “How could it possibly be good that I sent you to be beaten and executed?”

B: “If you had not sent me away, the savages would have captured me, too. And I have all of my thumbs!”

Last preview activity:

The students are briefly introduced to the Art of Storytelling: where in the world it has flourished; why; from Omero to medieval minstrels, from the Irish Storytelling tradition to Sardinian fireplace tales (Sos Contos de Foghile).

Time to watch the VIDEO.

We watch it together.

<https://www.tellatale.eu/tales/all-tales/missing-thumb/>

ASSIGNMENT:

- 1) Watch the video again (if you think it’s useful, first read the plot once more).
- 2) Reorganize the Sequencing of the 5 parts here below.

- a. Akbar is captured by the savages but they cannot eat him, his body is not in one piece.
 - b. Akbar is a magnificent and powerful emperor, Birbal is his wise counsellor. He refers to everything with his inevitable, optimistic fatalism. He often says: "This must be for the good. Remember, everything happens for a reason!". This began to grate on Akbar.
 - c. Akbar goes back home and asks Birbal to forgive him.
 - d. Akbar fires first time. Missed. Akbar fires again and his thumb blows off. Birbal says it's for the good and Akbar sends him to the palace to be hanged.
 - e. They go Hunting.
There is a tribe a Savages. They sacrifice people and eat them.
- 1) -
 - 2) -
 - 3) -
 - 4) -
 - 5) -

FOURTH LESSON

We correct the answers.

Then the students answer these questions and start writing the last essay:

- 1) What did I start doing during these two months which I have never done before?
- 2) Do I discuss with my parents **more** than before? Why?
- 3) Do I help **more** with the housework now?
- 4) Do I think about my future **more** than before? How?
- 5) Do I have a different idea about:
 - friendship (I miss my friends more than expected..)
 - my house (it's too dark/dusty/hot/cold..)
 - my room (it's too small/empty/coloured/messy/tidy..)
 - my school (I miss it, I miss my classmates, I miss the school routine..)
 - my favourite sport (I want to change it/ I miss it..)
- 6) What is FREEDOM for me?
- 7) What have I missed most?
- 8) Do I spend quality-time surfing on the internet?

Talk about something new you have found (a new interesting website, a cool YouTuber, a singer, a tutorial,...)

9) THOUGHTS ABOUT YOUR FUTURE. Anything new?