

Activities to Accelerate Student Learning

Comparative/global Studies

1. Just a minute

In 4s with six numbered subjects / areas from the specification displayed on OHT (e.g. High School Sport in USA or Elite sport/excellence in Australia). In turns roll dice and see which of the 6 subjects students must be talked about for one minute. There should be no hesitation, deviation or repetition. The rest of group can 'buzz in' to take over the subject if speaker hesitates, deviates or repeats. Whoever is talking at end of minute is the winner of that round. Someone else rolls dice.

2. Verbal tennis

Pairs of students are given two minutes to 'prepare' key words or phrases to do with a particular topic e.g. elite sport in France. Sitting opposite each other, each player then takes turns to say a word/phrase associated with that topic e.g. INSEP – words/phrases should be exchanged in rapid succession. If a student repeats a word, hesitates or gets stuck then a point is given to the other student. Students to prepare written word lists / mind maps to de-brief. **Verbal football** – divide group into two teams each with a captain. Teacher asks series of questions to Team A who are given 10 seconds to answer each one – through captain. (if they take too long they are 'tackled' and the other team gains possession). Possession is kept if question answered correctly - 3 correct answers = goal! Then possession changes and the other team have a go. Foul = interruptions by own team mates/calling out not through captain.

3. Sorting/interpreting/answering

Give students a question (which should have no single correct answer) and a range of information / sentences – some relevant and some irrelevant. Suitable questions might be: '**Discuss the relationship between sport, sponsorship and the media in the USA,**' or '**Discuss the factors which contribute to international sporting success in Australia.**' This task is valuable as students need to:

- Process information.
- Interpret information.
- Sort irrelevant from irrelevant.
- Form links
- Answer / write up a question based on information found.
- Check, feed back and evaluate the process.

4. Key Words/Articulate

In two's - key words/phrases are on cards which are face down. Take it in turns to pick card from top of pile and by giving good / relevant 'clues' directly related to the specification (no 'rhymes with,' 'begins with' or 'sounds like!') try to get partner to say word on the card. (full set of key word/articulate cards (3 countries) available in Comparative/global Studies Teacher Resource File – item TRF-01 (on comparative/global studies CD order form page of website – www.pefocus.com)

5. Research circuit

Set up a series of resource stations around the room on a particular topic Depending on your equipment/resources these might include Power point presentation on laptop, text book/s with clear reference pages, video, past student exam answers, newspaper article, websites to visit, quizzes / tests. Students can visit as many stations as they wish to produce their required piece of work.

6. Hot potatoes

Work in two's and draft an answer to a set question. After five minutes the sheets are passed on to the next pair can add / redraft / even cross out. When sheets have 'done the circuit' the original authors prepare a final version. Depending on stage of learning / ability of group resources can be provided.

7. A to Z

Prepare a list of topics e.g. ethnic sports in Australia / outdoor ed. in USA / mass participation in France and get a small set of letters of the alphabet. Students 'take a letter' and try to think of a relevant key word / point beginning with that letter.

8. Match up

Prepare a set of key word cards and associated set of cards that contain their description. In two's match them up correctly – then turn over alternate cards (first a key word then an explanation) for students to remember/come up with what is missing and to check learning. (full set of match up cards (3 countries) available in Comparative/global Studies Teacher Resource File – item TRF-01 (on comparative/global studies CD order form page of website – www.pefocus.com)

9. 'Circuit training'

See comparative Studies download number 7

10. Synoptic links

Make lots of cards (in one colour) covering aspects of AS work and other cards (in another colour) covering aspects of A2 work. Students to pick out any two cards (AS or A2) and try to make a theoretical link between them– the stronger the link the better!