

THINK TANK

CREATING CAPTIVATING TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR VULNERABLE LEARNERS



BELGIUM CASE STUDY NO. 1 PAPER B

ASOCIACIÓN DE ALUMNOS Y EXALUMNOS DE LA UNIVERSIDAD PERMANENTE DE ALICANTE ALICANTE - ESPAÑA



WHY NOT TRY? / IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO ...

ATTRACT ATTENTION AND GAINING CONFIDENCE

- 1. To attract the attention and trust of immigrants.
- 2. To reach them through personalized visits and explain the initiative of sociolinguistic integration for its working usage.
- 3. To enhance the trust and involvement of immigrant leaders to prepare recreational and educational activities together:
 - Free sports activities at school for parents and children: football games, board games, arts and crafts. They will be invited with motivations such as free breakfast or snacks, giving the children pencils and notebooks, sport shirts provided by merchants and/or institutions, and the language will be learned with visual and pictographic elements to make initial language comprehension easier.
 - Invitations to participate in the viewing of international sporting events (Champions league, etc.)

FORMATION

- · Workshops of furnishing, paintings, arts and crafts, cooking and baking and sewing.
- Practical workshops for language use, working with pictograms and drawings and short texts and summary prospectuses: "One day in..."The market, at work, the hospital, the bank, Services and resources available.

INTEGRATION AND SOCIALIZATION

Multicultural fairs. This will increase their socialization and self-esteem, generating a wide range of activities where each immigrant citizen and resident in Belgium may feel more comfortable (sport, board games, music, dance, gastronomy).

Participants may exhibit idiosyncratic characteristics of their countries, their cultural and linguistics aspects and compare them with local customs In these festivals, which in our opinion could cause more union among the community.

They will know the customs of their own countries and the ones of other citizens and the place/country where they reside.

NECESSARY CONDITIONS: MATERIAL / PLACE / TIME

At the beginning, we need to have volunteers to carry out the task related to the integration and revitalization of the project. This means that the proposing organization (ZEBRA, AAUP) should have a team of volunteers and a person responsible for strategy coordination. Specific tasks and responsibilities must also be assigned to several volunteers and working groups (organization and programme, broadcast, logistic spaces, resources, attracting sponsors or collaborators).

To make contact with immigrants, we should make an important dissemination campaign of these activities, initiatives and program. In order to achieve success, we suggest doing it via schools, community centers and associations; advertising through radio announcements, speeches to community residents, or by volunteers going from house to house in towns, or in popular meeting places for immigrants, by means of leaflets to be distributed among them in strategic sites such as shops, cafés and so on.

We must reach agreements with companies and associations or institutions that could get involved and sponsor these actions in order to cover the basic costs and essential resources.

The intercultural fair and the sports activities in general can be carried out in different districts and municipalities of the country or in the capital city, also with the possibility of holding them in a different town/village every month, to make it available to as many people as possible. We will have the support of some local businessmen (such as the owners of shops and restaurants) in the corresponding town, through partnership agreements and the support of neighborhood associations, volunteers and NGOs.

We propose that these activities could be done throughout the school year so that we can closely follow these tasks and specifically with children during the summer with activities and workshops in campsites. We believe that if there is no follow-up during the summer, they will get unbound of the activities. Of course, if we have managed to integrate people, we will continue working with them during the year. If we manage to attract more people, we will know that these activities help facilitate everyday life and if it is spread, it could have a great social impact.

POSSIBLE OBSTACLES

1.-Lack of volunteers; 2- Lack of support from companies and institutions in order to reduce organizational expenses; 3-Lack of places to meet and develop the activities; 4-Possible reluctance to language learning; 5-Possible resistance of immigrants to the initiative and proposal.





