

COMENIUS 2006-2007 MULTICULTURALISM

Crossing Borders Away and Back

(http://groups.yahoo.com/group/comenius_multiculturalism/)

ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE PARTNERSHIP

The activities developed by each partner school over the last 3 years have focused on the subject of Crossing Borders and Multiculturalism in Europe (from Europe to Europe), Immigrants within Europe and European immigrants who came back to their home country.

Keywords: cooperation among partner schools and common planning and assessment of the project.

Liceo G. Bruno – Venice

Teachers have read, analysed and discussed the following literary texts: *Lispeth* by the Victorian writer R.Kipling; an extract titled “**An English or a Pakistani?**” taken from the autobiographical novel *The Rainbow Sign* by English-Pakistani contemporary writer Hanif Kureishi; an extract titled “**I will not serve**” taken from *A Portrait of the Artist as Young Man* by J.Joyce; an extract taken from *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan, a contemporary Chinese American writer; three extracts from the novel *Away* by Jane Urquhart.

As a follow up the students were asked to fulfil the following tasks:

1. Letter writing: the students had to imagine to be old Lispeth, the letter was addressed to Lispeth's granddaughter Elizabeth who lived in America. The task was: speaking about European upbringing and sentimental education.
2. Interview to Mr Kureishi. The students had to imagine to be on the same flight as Mr Kureishi and to interview him on the issue of multiculturalism.
3. Letter writing (Joyce and A. Tan): the students had to imagine to write a letter to a friend explaining why they had chosen to live abroad and if they felt uprooted or integrated in that country.

As a second step, questionnaires about multiculturalism were prepared to interview both students in our school who come from different countries and their parents or relatives. Some questionnaires were discussed in class and even published on the school magazine.

As a third step students were asked to write personal letters or short compositions regarding the possibility to spend some time of their lives abroad.

Mobility

A first meeting to assess the two year program and plan the common activities for the school year 2006-2007 took place in Venice from 24 to 30 September. During the meeting all the partner members discussed how

- to improve the communication and the exchange of materials and ideas among partner students and teachers, for instance we decided to use the mailing list more

- encourage the use and practice of Information Technology as well as the materials to use and share during the current school year (songs, extracts from novels, plays and essays, newspapers' articles questionnaires, interviews, websites etc);

Besides, the teachers:

- assessed and evaluated some of the materials produced during the previous school years and visited the website designed by a group of students attending the leader school (www.liceobruno.it/comenius);
- determined the formats and contents of the final products;
- created an assessment grid for the three year project.

During the meeting a group of 12 students representing the European partners schools were hosted by Italian partners and took part in educational and cultural activities regarding multicultural issues. From 26 to 31 March 2007 the Italian Headmistress and two Italian teachers went to visit the Polish partners together with a group of 4 Italian students hosted by Polish partners. At this meeting there were also two Portuguese teachers and two Portuguese students. On this occasion the Italian students presented a DVD containing some of the works produced and a miniplay they had prepared. The Portuguese students presented a video about the September meeting in Venice. In April the Polish teachers visited the French school.

MATERIALS PRODUCED BY THE PROJECT

c/o Liceo G. Bruno -Venice

Highlights of COMENIUS project *CROSSING BORDERS: AWAY AND BACK* (http://groups.yahoo.com/group/comenius_multiculturalism/), and connected school projects and initiatives.

The video (36 minutes, English) was produced in the school multi media laboratory (LIM) for the final meeting in Danzig (Poland) of the 3-year European partners coordinated by Liceo Scientifico *Giordano Bruno*, Venezia-Mestre Italy.

CONTENTS

MENU DVD – Liceo Scientifico *Giordano Bruno* in the background, Mozart *Idomeneus*

FILM

1) European background (blue, stars)

TITLE: *COMENIUS CROSSING BORDERS: AWAY AND BACK*

Ms Paola Franzoso, Head Mistress, introduces the school, which, in the last few years, has become increasingly multi cultural. The school details and references are given and appear in subtitles.

2) Slide show (Venice sights and landscapes, Handel *Sonata*, Vivaldi style).

3) In the Multi Media Laboratory (LIM), Sylvia Newbold introduces “Ago e Filo”: a project dealing with Learning Methodology, coordinated by Mr Francesco Minosso.

Miniplay (2 sketches produced by the “Ago e Filo” workgroup to simulate a couple of typical learning situations.

*In sketch 1, Francesca Nuzzetti plays the Counsellor on learning strategies and methodologies, while Letizia Tomaselli plays the part of the Diligent Underachiever.

*In sketch 2, Elena Marchiori plays the learning Counsellor, while Giacomo Orlandini plays the part of the Brilliant Lazybones.

Ethnic music builds up the atmosphere for a multicultural celebration (Loreena McKennit and Iranian music).

4) Back to classroom: the ethnic lunch of December 13 2006 is introduced in English and German by Ms Franzoso, Head Mistress. Mix of multicultural images and sounds.

Highlights of ethnic lunch.

The Zohouri twins, from Iran, smile to the camera (Iranian music)

5) Interviews in the Multi Media Laboratory (LIM):

a) Parastù Zohouri interviews, Mahnaz, her Iranian mother (Iranian music)

b) Sylvia Newbold interviews David, her Welsh father (Gaelic reel)

c) Carla Bertin interviews Yara, her Brazilian mother (Brazilian samba)

6) Recital of literary poems (theme: a “brotherhood of men”)

a) *We Shall Overcome*, sung by B. Springsteen introduces the animation of *I have a dream* in memory of Martin Luther King.

b) Francesca Nuzzetti reads *Standing Tall* a poem written by Jamie McKenzie in honour of Martin Luther King (1982)

c) Elena Marchiori reads *Rainbow* a poem written by Richard Rive (Amerindian song: *Prophecy* sung by Joanne Shenandoah)

7) Recital of poems created by the younger students (As a musical background: *Cry me a river* Sung by Julie London)

a) *Home Night Thoughts* written and read by Silvia Gianolla

b) *Thinking of Home from Paris* written and read by Chiara Voltan

c) *We and the Others* written and read by Monica Zanini

CREDITS [Beethoven 5th Symphony (final, 1st mov.)]

Ms Paola Franzoso (Head Mistress)

Teachers

Ms Anna Angioni

Ms Daniela Baroni

Ms Monica Boscaro

Ms Giuseppina Carestiato

Mr Francesco Minosso

Mr Giorgio Ruffa (IT Assistant)

Ms Chiara Salerno

Ms Enrica Semenzato

Mr Michele Zanna
Ms Martina Zuccon

Students:

Stefano Ben
Carla Bertin
Silvia Gianolla
Elena Marchiori
Sylvia Newbold
Francesca Nuzzetti
Giacomo Orlandini
Letizia Tomaselli
Chiara Voltan
Monica Zanini
Parastù Zohouri
Pardis Zohouri

PRODUCED BY LICEO SCIENTIFICO GIORDANO BRUNO VENICE MESTRE ITALY
School year 2006-2007