

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Communicative Task for Spanish as a Second Language Grade 5

TASK SUMMARY

Students will participate in a game to ask and answer questions about favorite things.

Student Focus for the Task

I can talk to others about my favourite things.

PRINCIPLE OUTCOMES FOR THIS TASK

General Outcome	Specific Outcome
Applications: A-1.1: share factual information	a. ask for and provide information
Applications: A-2.1: share ideas, thoughts, opinions, preferences	a. identify favourite people, places or things

SUPPORTING OUTCOMES FOR THIS TASK

General Outcome	Specific Outcome
Applications: A-6.1: humor/fun	a. use the language for fun
Language Competence: LC-2.3: interactive fluency	a. engage in simple interactions, using simple sentences
Strategies: S-2.1: interactive	a. use a variety of simple interactive strategies with guidance

PREPARING FOR THE TASK

- Introduce the “I can” statement to the class. Ensure it is visible throughout the task. Ask students “What types of words and phrases do people use when they are talking about their favourite things?” With students, build a list of indicators that will help them know they have achieved the “I can” statement.

I can talk to others about my favourite things.

I know this because...

- I talked to many different people.
- I asked questions.
- I used words and phrases to talk about my favourite things.

- Provide each student with a simple question prompt in Spanish about favourite things.
¿Cuál es tu _____ favoritola?
- Ensure supporting structures are visible throughout the task.
- To practice interactive language use strategies, encourage students to use phrases to ask someone to repeat themselves, or speak more slowly, whenever necessary during the

activity. Practice these strategies with students and place the structures on the board to ensure they are visible throughout the task.

- It is not critical that every student receive a different question, but there should be a broad variety of comprehensible questions having to do with lexical fields that have been studied up to this point. Possible categories include:
 - sports
 - movies
 - TV shows
 - song
 - colour
 - clothing
 - numbers
 - animal
 - drink
 - clothes
 - seasons
 - school subject

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT

- The students will be in two concentric circles for this activity. The inner circle faces outward and the outer circle faces inward.
- Allow a limited amount of time (about 30 seconds) for each exchange to take place. Minimizing the amount of time students spend with one another helps ensure conversations will take place in Spanish and not get off-topic.
- Use a maraca or other noisemaker to indicate when students should move to a new conversation partner.
- This could be a useful activity to help two different classes get to know each other prior to participating in a cultural day or field trip together.

FEEDBACK FOR LEARNING

- Students complete a self-reflection about how they thought they performed in the task. Collect the student self-reflections to use along with other assessment data.
- While students are sharing their ideas with one another about their favourite things, observe their performances.
- After students have had completed the activity, ask them to consider their performance in relation to the indicators.
- Students share, either orally or in writing, whether or not they achieved the “I can” statement, and provide evidence of why they think that is so. They may need the opportunity to elicit feedback from a few peers to find out if their conversation partners were able to understand them.
- Compare your teacher observations to students’ self-reflections. In cases where students’ perspectives do not match the teacher observations, take the opportunity to discuss why this is so with the student.

This task was developed by teachers at the Alberta Assessment Consortium (AAC) Summer Workshop for Second Languages, funded by a grant from Alberta Education.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU – Student Task

Your Spanish class is getting together with another Spanish class. To get to know students in the other class, you are going to participate in an activity. Using Spanish, you will ask the other students questions about themselves and answer questions about yourself. You will have the chance to talk to lots of different people in a short amount of time.

Remember to ask your conversation partner to repeat their question, or to say their question more slowly if you need to.

Have fun!