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Arguing (Nicely) with iPods

Eight Annual Celebration of Technology in Education

Eastern Suffolk BOCES, Model Schools Program

Prepared by: Stephanie Vogel, ESL Teacher, Grades 9-12

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DESCRIPTION: English Language Learners (ELLs) will demonstrate how to argue (nicely) by creating podcast arguments. Students will choose a topic, select phrase starters from a list, and then record an argument about this topic. After recording, students will add pictures to their argument to illustrate their points, and finally, students will publish their finished podcasts.

TOPIC: Using iPods and Mac Books as instruments for language instruction in the English as a Second Language Classroom.

PURPOSE: As a result of this project, intermediate ELL students are able to gain confidence and fluency in oral expression as they exchange opinions about topics. Students will use proper expressions for: giving opinions, asking for opinions, agreeing, expressing reservations, and disagreeing. In addition, since students are recording and playing back their own voices, they will self-assess to gain accuracy in pronunciation, intonation and grammatical fluency.

MATERIALS:

- iPods with attached microphones & headphones
- Mac-Books with Garageband software
- Internet access
- Self evaluation and scoring rubric*

- List of opinion phrases starters*
- 4(or more) topics to choose from, i.e.:
 - men and women
 - saving and spending
 - country living and city living
 - public transportation and driving your own car

* attached

NYS ESL STANDARDS:

1. Students will listen, speak, read, and write in English for information and understanding.
3. Students will listen, speak, read, and write in English for critical analysis and evaluation.
4. Students will listen, speak, read, and write in English for classroom and social interaction.
5. Students will demonstrate cross-cultural knowledge and understanding.

PROCEDURE:

This lesson requires 90-120 minutes.

1. Student pairs will choose a topic and work collaboratively to create list of points and counterpoints.
2. Students will review list of argument phrase starters, and write a draft of their argument.
3. Students will record their arguments onto iPods with microphones, or directly into Garageband.
4. Students will listen and revise vocal tracks as needed, (using both self-assessing and peer evaluating).
5. Students will transfer voice tracks to Garageband to create podcasts.
6. Students will use MacBook camera to import pictures of themselves and will also use the internet to find appropriate pictures to support their arguments.
7. Students will complete and publish podcasts and download them to iPods to share. (Alternatively, students will publish podcasts to website.)

Argument Phrase Starters	
<p>Asking for opinions How do you feel about . . . ? What do you think of . . . ? What's your opinion of . . . ?</p>	<p>Giving an opinion In my opinion . . . I think . . . I believe . . . I feel . . .</p>
<p>Agreeing You're right. Yes, I agree. I agree with you. That's right.</p>	<p>Expressing Concerns/Reservations Yes, but . . . Possibly, but . . . Well, the problem is . . .</p>
<p>Disagreeing I don't really agree with you. I'm afraid I don't agree with you because . . . I'm not sure that I agree with you. The reason is . . . Yes, that may be true, but . . . Well, I see your point, but . . . I see what you mean; however, . . .</p>	

Name: _____

ARGUMENT PODCAST

Partner's Name: _____

Self-Evaluation

1. During this project, I worked well with my partner.		
2. I said at least 4 points in my argument about my topic.		
3. I am happy with the way my project looked and sounded.		
4. Next time, I think I can do better.		
5. I used some of the arguing phrases.		
6. I spoke clearly and carefully.		
7. I added pictures to support my points.		
Attach a written paragraph to this page. Write anything you think is important for me to consider when I am giving you a grade. Tell me what grade you think you deserve and tell me why. Grade range is 1-10 (best). Also, tell me what grade you think your partner deserves and why.		

Argument Rubric (10 points)

- _____/2 Used proper phrases for arguing (from list)
- _____/3 Argued 4 or more different points about topic
- _____/3 Spoke clearly and carefully
- _____/1 Added pictures to support opinions
- _____/1 Completed all parts of project on time