

Strategies for developing cultural/intercultural awareness: Class Interview

(Adapted from MLPSI, 2009)

Sample questions for use in class interviews

1: Sample TARGET LANGUAGE questions

What is your name?
Where are you from?
Where do you live?
Is it in the North/South etc.
Is it near....?
Do you like Dublin etc?
Which do you preferor?
What is your favourite town in xxx/Ireland?
What is your favourite place in xxx/Dublin/Cork etc?
Where do you go on holidays?

What is your favourite hobby/sport/team?
Do you support (team in target country)/(any other European team)?
Are you sporty?
Do you like hurling/gaelic football?
What is your favourite Irish sport?
Do you support the Irish rugby team?
Do you play soccer/tennis/rugby etc?
Is there a soccer team in your town?
What are the colours of the team?

Do you have brothers or sisters?

Which languages do you speak?
What is your favourite language?
Why?
Do you speak Irish?

Do you like watching television?
What is your favourite television programme?
Do you like reading?
Do you like film?
Favorite film?
What is your favourite singer/group?

What is your favourite season?
What is your favourite weather?
Do you like Irish weather?
Which do you prefer ...Irish weather or xxx weather?
Which do you prefer Summer or Winter?

What is your favourite German/Italian/French/Spanish food?
Do you like eating....?
Which do you preferor.....?
What do like to drink?

2 - Sample questions for English/Irish part of the interview

- **For a guest that comes from the target country:**

The home city/town/village:

How big is...?
Where islocated in France? (In the North, South etc.)
What is the name of the region?
What is the nearest big town/city?
How near is it to the sea? Which sea?
Is there a river running through the town?
Is the area hilly, flat, mountainous etc?
What are the nearest mountains?
What are the best known/most famous landmarks of the town/area?
What is special about this place?
What is your favourite place in the town/area? Why?
If we went to this town for a weekend what places/landmarks should we visit?
How doescompare in size to our town/village?
How is this place similar to our town/area?
How is this town different to our town/area?
Where do/did you go on holidays?
What do you miss most about this town?
What did you find most surprising when you came to our town/area? (in relation to what the place looks like, its situation, features etc.)
Where do/did you live in the town?
Do/did you live in an apartment or house?
Can you describe the house?
Are the shops different to shops in Ireland?
Is there a market?
What do people buy in the market?

Weather:

What is the weather like in Summer/Winter etc.
What temperatures do you have in Summer/Winter etc?
Which season do you prefer? Why?
How is the weather different from Irish weather?
What do you miss most about the weather in ...?

People:

Languages:

What languages do you speak?

What are the main languages spoken by people in...?

Where did you learn to speak English/Irish?

What languages did you learn in school?

Did you find it difficult to understand the accent in our town/area when you came here first?

What surprised you most about languages/accent in Ireland when you came here first?

What is your favourite German/Spanish... word/phrase?

Work:

What kind of work do people do in this town/area?

Are there any jobs that people do in this town that are not done in our town/area?

What kind of work do you do/did you do before you came to Ireland?

Did you have to study/train to do that work? Where did you study?

Hobbies:

What kind of hobbies do people have in this town/area?

What are your hobbies?

What are the most popular hobbies? (in Summer/in Winter? Etc.)

What sports do people play?

What is the most popular sport?

Do you play...?

Is there a football stadium in the town/area?

What is the most popular football team in the area/town?

What team do you support?

What are the most popular hobbies for boys/girls of our age?

If we went to this place for a weekend, what sports activities could we do/watch?

School:

At what age do children start/leave school?

What are the different levels of school?

What subjects do you study in secondary school?

What was your favourite subject?

What time does school start and finish?

Do students bring a lunch or eat in a canteen?

Do secondary school students wear uniforms?

Food:

What is your favourite food?

What is your favourite drink/s?

Are there special dishes/foods in the area that you would not find in other areas?

What food/dish do you miss most?

What do people eat at Christmas/Easter etc.?

What do young people like to eat?

What do people like to drink?

Are there any Irish dishes that are similar to your dishes?

What do/did you find most surprising about Irish food?

What is your favourite Irish food?

- **For a guest who has visited the target country:**

Which town/area did you visit? Why did you choose that place?

Where is that town located in Italy/France etc?

What is the name of the region?

Is it near the sea?

Is there a river in the town?

Is it near the mountains?

What did you find most surprising about how the place looked?

How was the town different/similar to our town?

What places did you visit/landmarks did you go to see?

What was your favourite landmark/place?

What were the houses like?

What jobs do the people of the town do?

What languages are spoken in the town/area?

Did you speak (Italian/French/...) etc?

Did you find it easy to speak (Italian/...) etc.?

What did you find most difficult about speaking the language?

What were the shops like?

Was there a market?

What was being sold in the market?

What did you buy to take home with you?

Did you like the food?

What was your favourite food/drink?

What did you find most surprising about the food?

Were there any special dishes from the area?

What are the restaurants like?

What was the weather like?

How were the people dressed?

Did you join in any celebration for a festival/special day/feast?

How was it celebrated?

How was it different to Christmas/Easter etc. in Ireland?

Did you see any schools?

Do the secondary school students wear uniforms?

