

## Developing intercultural competence: Public spaces and hangouts

This chain of activities is designed to take place over a module in Transition Year for students who have been learning the target language (TL) up to Junior Cycle and who are involved in a school exchange.

By engaging in these activities, students will:

- use the TL and English/Irish appropriately and in a meaningful way to find out about the culture and way of life of a country where this language is spoken and reflect on their own culture.
- move between English/Irish and the TL, depending on the task.
- develop their intercultural competence.
- compare and contrast aspects of the TL culture with their own.
- reflect on their knowledge, attitude, beliefs and values related to a given topic.
- challenge their preconceptions/stereotypes with regard to the TL culture.
- interpret a cultural aspect/way of life in the TL country by relating it to their own way of life.

### Reflecting on the social value of public spaces and hangouts



#### Task overview:

Students will be able to describe public spaces and hangouts, as well as what they and other people do there. They will also find out about public spaces and popular hangouts in the TL culture. At the same time, they will engage in activities to compare and contrast how public spaces are used in the two cultures. Finally, they will work on a product to be chosen from a selection of tasks.



#### Culture focus:

Public spaces and hangouts, as well as their social value in a community.



#### Language focus:

The main focus is on vocabulary for public spaces and hangouts; people and related actions; present tense, prepositions of place, adverbs and other expressions of time and place; and expressing likes, dislikes and comparisons.

## Developing intercultural competence: Public spaces and hangouts



### Time:

6 to 8 class sessions



### Materials:

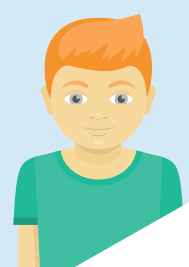
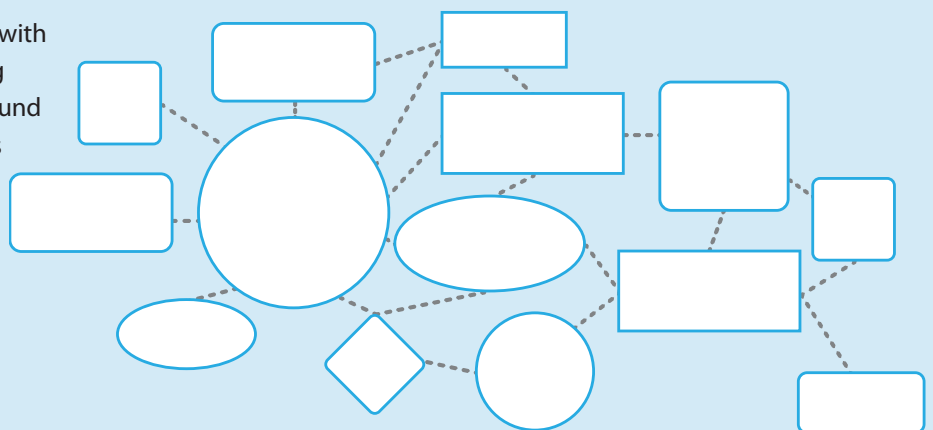
Images, film sequences, ads or any other authentic text which is representative of this topic in relation to a TL culture; screen/IWB and projector; internet access; and mobile phones (optional). A list of sample resources in French, German, Italian and Spanish is available. <https://?????????????> *hyperlink to go here*



## Procedure:

### Session 1

- Through a brainstorming session in the TL, students' prior knowledge of vocabulary is activated for real and virtual public spaces and hangouts in the TL culture. Words that may come up in the TL are shopping centre, shop, disco/club, cinema, market, square, café, beach, restaurant, playground, street, monument, museum, park, picnic, Internet, chat room, gym, school, etc. The teacher introduces, recalls or pre-teaches some vocabulary for spaces that are typical of the TL culture and elicits their meaning from the students. The choice of vocabulary will depend on the authentic text selected by the teacher.
- The teacher creates a mind map with the students in the TL by eliciting what groups of people can be found in these spaces and what actions they perform.



## Developing intercultural competence: Public spaces and hangouts

### Session 2

- Students answer some questions in writing that aim to make them:
  - reflect on their knowledge, attitude, beliefs and values related to public spaces and hangouts.
  - compare and contrast a TL culture with their own.
  - become more aware of their own perception of public spaces and their social value.

They first answer these questions individually, using both the TL and English/Irish, as the level of language required to reflect may be slightly above their current level.

The following are possible questions which may be adapted depending on the authentic text being used:

1. Which public spaces and hangouts do you go to and what do you do there?
2. What is the social value of the those spaces for the community you live in?
3. Which public spaces do you find boring, and why?
4. Who would go to the spaces you mentioned and why?
5. Where do you think people from [a TL culture] hang out?
6. Do you know of any other spaces where people in [a TL culture] hang out that don't exist or are less popular in your culture? Can you explain why?



### Session 3

- In groups, students discuss their answers to the above questions and add to their original observations as appropriate.



## Developing intercultural competence: Public spaces and hangouts

### Session 4/5

- The teacher selects and shows an authentic text related to the topic in the TL country.
- The teacher may also choose to show another authentic text which contrasts with the first one. For example, if the first text showed popular hangouts for young people in a big city, the second may focus on a smaller city, town, village or the countryside. If the first one was about young people, the second may focus on older people.
- After watching/looking at the (first) authentic text, students answer questions in English/Irish, for example:
  - Describe what you saw: who, where, what, when and why.
  - What in this video/image challenged your assumptions and beliefs about the TL culture?
  - Was there anything that came across as odd, unusual or inappropriate? What about anything interesting and intriguing? Explain your answer.
  - Name one or more things that contrast with your own culture.

Questions may be changed depending on the content of the authentic text.

By engaging with these questions, students challenge their preconceptions/stereotypes with regard to the TL culture. They also interpret the text from the point of view of the people involved in it, by relating it to their own way of life.

If they engage with a second authentic text, students will discuss the differences between the two texts and will answer questions in English/Irish similar to those they answered after viewing the first authentic text.



## Developing intercultural competence: Public spaces and hangouts

### Sessions 5/6 (or more, as appropriate)

- Teachers may use a couple of sessions for a choice of activities such as the following. They may use more sessions depending on the students' interest.
  - Writing a paragraph in the TL** comparing and contrasting public spaces and hangouts in the TL culture, in Ireland and in their home culture if different. Students highlight similarities and differences between cultures.
  - Role-play/interview in the TL:** one student takes on the role of a member of the TL community and answers question on what hangouts are popular among young people in his/her community, why they are popular and what they do there.
  - Interviewing a native speaker living in the students' community (in the TL).**  
Their curiosity being triggered, students prepare questions in the TL to find out more about the topic from a native of the TL culture. They could also interview students from different countries temporarily enrolled in the school. The teacher may model the interview by asking a few questions first, such as:
    - What part of [TL country] are you from? Is it a rural, seaside or urban area?
    - Which public spaces do you go to and why?
    - What do you like or dislike about them?
    - What do you do there? Who do you do it with?
    - Which public places are typical of your culture and unusual or non-existent in other cultures? Perhaps the students would like to find out more about these...

You may find these guidelines on preparing interviews useful. <https://bit.ly/3bVbNZx>

These activities were inspired by and adapted from:

- J. Despoteris and K. Ananda, "Intercultural Competence: Reflecting on Daily Routines", in M. Wagner, D. Conlon Perugini, M. Byram (eds.), Teaching Intercultural Competence Across the Age Range. From Theory to Practice.
- J. Corbett, Intercultural Language Activities, CUP



## Resources for Public Places and Hangouts

You will find sample resources for French, German, Italian and Spanish below. These are short films, feature-length films, TV series, advertisements and video clips.

### French

#### Films and Short Films

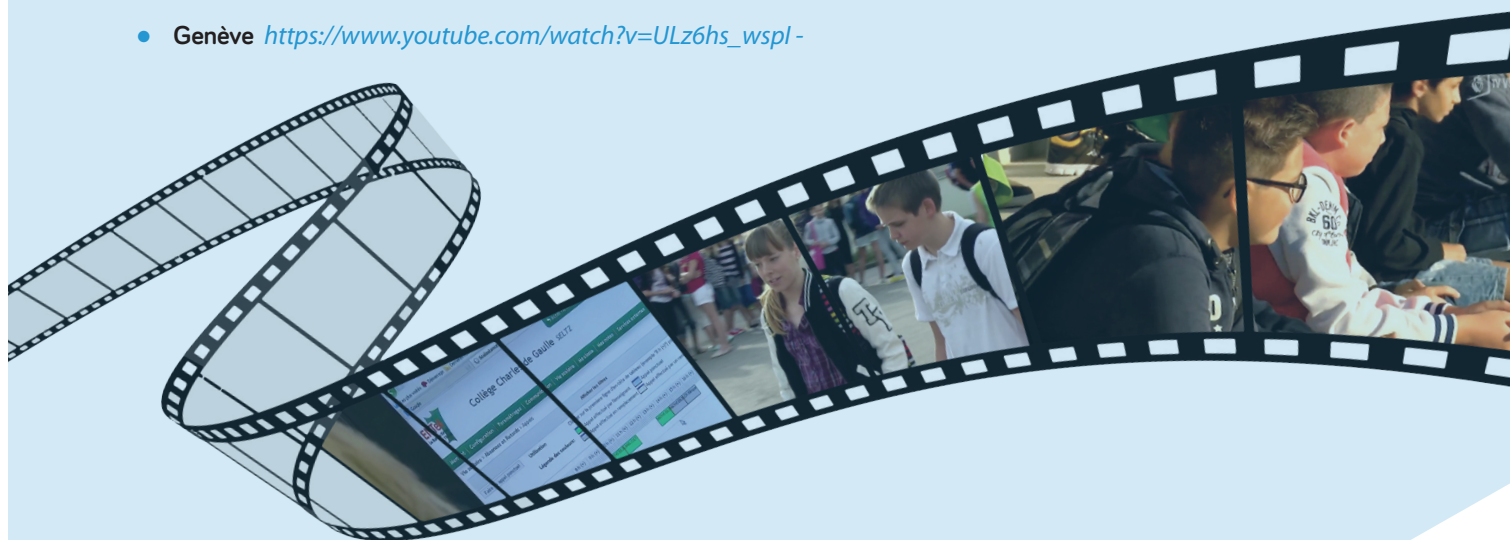
- Bande Annonce <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1T5YC-aQeME>
- Bande Annonce <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vHvPfB5bnRA>
- Reportage [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0qgk\\_KB3ag](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K0qgk_KB3ag)

#### TV Series

- Plus belle la vie—available on TV5 Monde  
<http://europe.tv5monde.com/en/tv-shows/tv-series/plus-belle-la-vie>

#### Advertisements / Video Clips

- Vlog Sisters Alipour  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2gGEQPgEnI4&list=PLfZsslkVc47oZt-ob4szKUWoevlONHGvJ>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJDjj5TKSmY->
- Série : OuiSNCF <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uPHiTK3NGzw>
- Vlog vie quotidienne au Québec <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B-rPY0dK7KM>
- Bruxelles <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=liVAQhDm2WM>
- Genève [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULz6hs\\_wspl-](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ULz6hs_wspl-)



## Resources for Public Places and Hangouts

### German

#### Films and Short Films

- Kurzfilm: Abhängen <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iwvYaleqBS0>
- Kurzfilm: Freiheit (heartbreak and homelessness are topics) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ay2ph-p4Qok>
- Kurzfilm: Schwarzfahrer <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swJ0zhVJ8DU>
- Mein Weg nach Deutschland-Bus stations <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PMj9kUPrnBk>
- List with more movies especially for students, with short descriptions <https://www.goethe.de/ins/gb/de/spr/unt/kum>

#### TV Series

- Unser Lehrer Dr. Specht <https://binged.it/35TbMUq>
- Berlin Berlin <https://bit.ly/2xWBvPe>
- Schloss Einstein <https://www.youtube.com/user/SchlossEinsteinSE>
- Familie Dr. Kleist <https://bit.ly/2Ag7k6n>
- Jojo sucht das Glück by Deutsche Welle (for learning German, level B1) <https://bit.ly/3fLGD9R>

#### Advertisements / Video Clips

- Lieblingsorte Bremen <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOrDXMdOSnM>
- Lieblingsorte Berlin <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6oXhtACO1aU>
- Werbespot Schweiz <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8Y5MDVhZDQ>
- Flashmob Nürnberg <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a23945btJYw>
- München Reisetipps <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WUC8pEfUI8>
- Graubünden, Schweiz – only images [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_js3xkbqf0U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_js3xkbqf0U)
- Urlaub in Deutschland – from the perspectives of foreign nationals <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEy5wHgvP3M>
- Deutschlandlabor – Wohnen/Living <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CgMWnmKiDc>
- Goethe Institut: Tschüß Autobahn with material for teachers <http://www.goethe.de/lhr/prj/fab/krz/de12800977.htm>
- Vlog Ilias Welt: Das liebe ich <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c7iTRjgbJ94>
- Zürich Putzwaegeli with English subtitles <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fGtbswSiQ88>
- Marco Polo Zürich: Ein Tag in Zürich <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23GrOJUrvkl>
- Wien in 5 Minuten [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_clJoGh3Hqo&t=29s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_clJoGh3Hqo&t=29s)



## Resources for Public Places and Hangouts

### Italian

#### Films and Short Films

- Scialla!
- Come te nessuno mai
- Bianca come il latte, rossa come il sangue (based on one of the novels on the LC course)
- L'estate addosso
- L'estate del primo bacio
- Il mio nome è Tanino

#### TV Series

- I Cesaroni
- Un medico in famiglia
- I liceali
- Alex & Co.

#### Advertisements / Video Clips

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tyGiT5Cucgo>  
(also useful for discussing stereotypes)
- Cornetto Love Story [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hv0O\\_N1qKW4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hv0O_N1qKW4)





## Resources for Public Places and Hangouts

### Spanish

#### Films and Short Films

- El Olivo
- Ocho apellidos vascos
- El Pregón
- Hiyab
- Ana y Manuel

#### TV Series

- Cuéntame como pasó <http://www.rtve.es/television/cuentame/temporadas/>
- Mercado central <https://bit.ly/2yV7SOG>
- I liceali
- Alex & Co.

#### Advertisements / Video Clips

- Campofrío [https://youtu.be/ICws\\_wMsKXM](https://youtu.be/ICws_wMsKXM)
- Estrella Damm “Vale” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jIQiwcsV9Q>
- Gente Ed. Difusión <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Hc8-l7u37Q>
- Pipas G [https://youtu.be/n930Le\\_A7Zw](https://youtu.be/n930Le_A7Zw)

