



Unit 1 Lesson 4 Crib Sheet

Multilingualism and the Arts

Slide 1: Introduce pupils to the aims of the lesson – to talk about whose language and culture we value and what happens when languages and cultures collide.

Slide 2: Pupils work in pairs to verbally translate the paragraph on the board. This is Europanto, a fun, made-up language comprised of European languages. The idea is they will be surprised by how much they understand or can work out through linguistic knowledge and educated guesses.

Slide 3: Introduces the concept of languages colliding to create something new and exciting. Can they think of situations where this might arise? Pupils may come up with ideas of when countries are invaded, of areas around the borders of countries where languages merge, of cities, for example London, where you have one culture living next to another culture.

Ask pupils why they think artists may choose to mix and merge language and culture.

Slide 4: Play the clip which talks about where Hip Hop meets Russian literature. The idea is that pupils see how language and culture can merge to create something beautiful, interesting and thought-provoking. This clip comes from a project called Creative Multilingualism.

Slide 5: Watch Rita Ora giving an interview in her native language, Albanian. Ask the questions on the board. Does she drop into English because she has forgotten Albanian, because it is easier for her to speak in English, she feels more comfortable, she thinks it sounds cooler?

Slide 6: Mix, merge, reinvent, create – read the slide and then it is time for the pupils to get creative.

Slide 7: Read out the condensed version of the Greek Myth, the story of Icarus. Pupils work in groups of 3 (3characters) to act out the play in their own style, using different language or a foreign language, set in a different country and a different time. Urge them to be as creative as they can. Will they use wings, will they escape a castle, or will they change it entirely?

If time allows, pupils can perform their sketches.