



KS2 Unit 1 Lesson 5 Communicating Without Talking

Crib Sheet

Slides 1 and 2: The aim of this lesson is to provoke thought as to how we communicate. We will explore the use of body language, facial expression, gesture and signs. We will look at how these vary from country to country and bring pupils' cultural knowledge into the discussions. We will learn some sign language and look at a case study of whistling language.

- We can investigate how humans communicate without words.
- We can see that gesture, facial expression, body language and the arts are all used to communicate.
- We can show how we communicate without speaking.

Slide 3: A retrieval starter linking to the previous lesson.

Slide 4: Ask pupils what these faces would be saying. Our faces often reflect our thoughts and feelings – if we are happy, sad, stressed, anxious.

Slide 5: Use dice to decide the mimes: you could ask all pupils to show you emotions on their faces, or they could play a guessing game in pairs. Can they think of other facial expressions? Are they aware of their expressive faces?

Slides 6: Read out the gestures from around the world. They are not similar to the ones we use in England. Do your class find these surprising? Do your class members know of any other from their own cultural knowledge? We realise the potential here for rude gestures – please use at your own discretion! **Slide 7** provides the answers.

Slide 8: What is the English equivalent? Eg if something is yummy, we rub our tummy.

Slide 9: On the worksheet, pupils write down 5 gestures they use and their meaning. They can act these out to their friends and ask if they understand what is meant.

Slide 10: Watch the clip from BSL commanding hands and learn some British Sign Language.

Slide 11: Using the grid on the board, pupils make up two-word phrases for their partners using the correct signs.

Slide 12 Asks pupils how they think they communicate. It shows them some of our ideas. They may come up with more. Go through the suggestions on the board. These ways of communicating are used daily around the world. Learn about the fascinating whistling languages from the embedded clip (there are indeed a few around the world, mainly in mountainous areas).

Slide 13: Pupils are asked to take part in this creative exercise: they make up and perform a short drama piece with no words. The suggestions on the board are to invite a friend to the



park, but alternative scenarios may suit your pupils better. How successfully have they conveyed their meaning without using words?

Slide 14: A plenary slide. Here we ask pupils to think about language throughout the week, continuing the aim to keep them curious about language. You can discuss these as a plenary or as a starter next lesson.

“Which items in your house are from or made in a different country?

Have you ever looked at the labels on food, shampoo, clothes and seen them written in another language?

Have a look tonight and see what other languages are hidden around your home.”