



Unit 6 Lesson 5

Made-up languages Crib Sheet

Slide 1: Introduce the objective of investigating made-up languages through the ages with the case studies of Esperanto and made-up words with the case study of Zulu.

Slide 2 and 3: Read the information about the Lingua Ignota. This language has genders and compound words. What other languages do the pupils know that have these grammatical traits?

Slide 4: Read out the information about Esperanto and how the language came about.

Slide 5: Listen to Esperanto being spoken. How much can pupils understand?

Slide 6: Esperanto puzzle – pupils work in their workbooks to try to translate into and from Esperanto. Here are the answers from the UK Linguistics Olympiad.

1. The goat will be going to eat.
2. The goat has been eaten.
3. The cat had been chased.
4. La kapro manĝantis.
5. La hundo manĝatas.
6. La hundo ĉasos la kapron.

Slides 7, 8 and 9 look at Quenya by JRR Tolkien, Klingon from Star Trak and Parseltongue from Harry Potter. Ask the discussion questions on the board. Why did the inventors of these languages make them sound the way they do?

Slide 10: Read out the information about Zulu and how they make up words from existing words.

Slide 11: Listen to the sounds of Zulu

Slide 12 gives examples of the Zulu language which will help with the linguistics activity.

Slide 13 gives 5 questions for pupils to work out. They can work in their workbook.

Slide 14 provides the answers:

thrashing stick (literally: thing to thrash with) = isibhulo

inspector= umthuli



thought = umcabango

question = umbuzo

tailor = umthungi

Slide 15 brings us to the end of the section and asks pupils to think about their final task – to create a language all of their own.