

Activity 2: Description

The second activity was designed for a 3rd grade primary school class of thirteen students. The students' level of English, according to the CEFR, is A1, however, the Common European Framework does not apply accordingly to the particular class since the students are considered ESL (English as Second Language) students.

This activity was conducted in order to revise and practice the Past Simple tense, its use, and formation in both regular and irregular verbs. It was designed to fit the timeline of the grammar book that my mentor had designed herself, in cooperation with the rest of the school's English teachers.

Before giving out the handouts that I had prepared for the students, we had a short discussion on the use of the Past simple, as well as the changes that the verbs undergo to acquire their past meaning. By the time the brief revision was complete, the students were handed the activity, for which they had to read the story of Echo and Hera. The story was based on a text taken by the British Council website (<https://www.britishcouncil.gr/en>). In the activity, students were required to fill in the gaps with the verbs missing from the text, using the correct Past Simple form. Each student was called to read out loud in the class, and give one answer at a time.

The purpose of the activity was to practice the Past Simple contextualized, using a story taken by the Greek mythology, which is also connected to the 3rd grade student's Greek history subject.

Activity 2: Self evaluation of descriptors

Methodology: A) Grammar

6 -> I can introduce a grammatical item and help learners to practice it through meaningful contexts and appropriate texts.

The activity focused on the revision and practice of the Past Simple tense. Before entering the activity, I had a brief revision on the use and formation of both regular and some simple irregular verbs in the Past Simple. I decided to focus on that grammatical phenomenon, through the analysis of a short story taken from the Greek mythology, which would seem to appeal students' attention. Learners would fill in the gaps with the words provided, always using the Past Simple form. While the activity took place, a problem that I encountered, and it didn't cross my mind to solve, is that some students had difficulties keeping up, resulting to not writing down the answer at all on the handout. To overcome that issue, I should have written down on the blackboard the answers that the students gave in order. In addition, I had issues

with the layout of the story, as the students didn't have visual contact with the entire text, and they often had to turn the page.

Methodology: B) Culture

9 -> I can evaluate and select a variety of texts, source materials and activities which awaken learners' interest in and help them to develop their knowledge and understanding of their own and the other language culture (cultural facts, events, attitudes and identity etc.)

Through the short text that was selected for the grammar activity, students did not only get to practice their grammar skills, but also got to learn the story of 'Echo and Hera', which constitutes a cultural element of history, as it comes from the Greek mythology.