

# World Languages

Teachers' Toolbox

March 2017

## The Presentational Mode: Writing



Evaluating students' productive language skills comes in the form of written or spoken assessments. Let this month's Teachers' Toolbox give you some thematic ideas on how to look at potential writing assignments in the presentational mode! Here are a series of Level I and II examples! Let the writing begin!

### Level One Ideas: "A Family Reunion", "Culinary Favorites", and "A Day in my Shoes"

**A Family Reunion** – What Level 1 curriculum map ignores a family theme? As a written product for this unit, you could have students list captions next to a series of awkward family photos from a family reunion. This can be done in the 1<sup>st</sup> person as quotes from the individuals in the photos or the 3<sup>rd</sup> person for students to describe what they are doing in the photo.

**Culinary Favorites** – Another staple unit in a 1<sup>st</sup> year curriculum plan. Let your students put their chef hats on and have them identify a menu of culturally-authentic dishes from a country of your/their choosing. Have students produce a list of ingredients using simple sentence structures and/or have students use imperative structures to share how the dish is made.

**A Day in my Shoes** – A journal entry over the course of a week can allow you to use this theme for students to share their hobbies and/or daily routine elements. To combine with another content area, students can use this as a fitness journal to help them track both their activity habits, their daily attire, their leisure activities or much more.

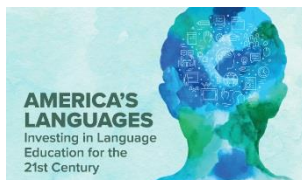
### Level Two Ideas: "Show and Tell", "That Crazy Day", and "Where Will I Go?"

**Show and Tell**– Stuffed animals, playgrounds and childhood friends will become the main focus as students share in a storybook format. Students can share their photos with their favorite quotes, they can describe their favorite toys or childhood items in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person. This is a great way to remind students of the importance of thorough descriptions.

**That Crazy Day** – Let students use their imagination as they share their craziest series of events in their rendition of That Crazy Day. This writing assignment can take place in various settings to accomplish any vocabulary tasks that you are trying to practice. Whether this is a bizarre day at school, a strange day at their after school job or a peculiar party event.

**Where Will I Go?** – Use this theme to engage your students in some forward thinking. They can think one, five or twenty years in the future to make their predictions regarding university study, future nuptials, a specific career path or even their days as a grandparent or retiree. So many future events can be encompassed here. Possible formats may include a time capsule prediction, an event invitation or even a goal-setting sheet.

**In the News...** The American Academy of Arts & Sciences just released their report entitled "America's Languages". Find and read it [here!](#)



**Don't forget to connect with us at** [www.learningconnection.doe.in.gov](http://www.learningconnection.doe.in.gov) for IDOE's World Language & Cultures Community

### Coming Soon:

This concludes our journey through the modes of communication. Stay tuned for ideas about the "Communities" standard in April!

**"WRITING IS THE PAINTING OF THE VOICE!"**  
VOLTAIRE

**Save the date...**  
**IFLTA Conference**  
Nov. 2-4, 2017  
[www.iflta.org](http://www.iflta.org)

### National Resources

Let our national organization help guide you with samples in your language. Click [here](#) to access the webpage. To see the general Can-Do statements that your national leaders crafted for the Presentational Mode, click [here](#) (pp. 23-27). For the ACTFL performance descriptors, click [here](#).



Visit our updated website!! Click [here!](#)

### Specialist Contact

**Jill Woerner** @GlobalEDIndiana  
Global Learning and World Languages Specialist  
[jwoerner@doe.in.gov](mailto:jwoerner@doe.in.gov)  
317-234-5705

