

World Languages

Teachers' Toolbox

December 2016

The Interpersonal Mode: Writing

As we continue on our journey of the 3 modes of communication, we now move into the INTERPERSONAL mode! As we know, this is an area where our students struggle in their native language, so our guidance is crucial for their personal and world language development. I hope this Teachers' Toolbox will provide you with ideas & resources to support an increase in understanding of what the interpersonal mode is, how to employ it in the classroom, and of course, how to assess it. Gear up for the January 2017 edition to focus on the other ½ of the interpersonal mode!

What is the interpersonal mode of communication? The interpersonal mode of communication is truly 2-way communication where individuals can both interpret the information coming at them but respond so they are understood by the people on the receiving end. This mode of communication can be in a written context such as e-mails, letters, post cards, text messages, thank you cards, etc... This mode of communication can also be in a spoken context where speakers can understand the information shared by the other speaker(s) and participate in a dialog with them. (See the January 2017 Edition.) *****Make sure students learn to ASK QUESTIONS to keep it 2-way!**

Sample classroom activities involving Interpersonal Writing!

1. Share some sample invitations to social events and have students compose an e-mail RSVP.
2. Give your students a chance to serve as teacher or parent and exchange an e-mail about themselves.
3. Provide students with a voicemail regarding giving them the option to respond with a text message.
4. Engage your students in an ePals, pen pal, or sister classroom situation where they communicate with their new counterparts in a new country. Provide some guidance for information for them to find out.
5. Have ½ of your students serve as a "Dear Abby" and the other students write in for advice.
6. Give students an job posting and have them compose a response to the posting.
7. Have students write a letter to a mythical or fictional character like the tooth fairy.
8. Have students use a blog to respond to prompts and comments on their classmates' posts.



Two resources for all levels!

National Capital Language Resource Center has created a robust resource for WL teachers focused solely on interpersonal communication. It includes both speaking and writing, but this is a great guide to give you ideas, Can-Dos, rubrics and much more. I highly encourage a visit to [this website](#). Also, if you haven't tried [Orange Slice](#), it was created by Matt Buchanan, a Hoosier teachers in Angola!



For Teachers of AP (& Pre-AP) levels ...

Check out this [AP Spanish Language resource](#) with themed questions and prompts to help prepare your current and future AP students for that style of engagement! Here's an [Interpersonal Writing rubric](#) to review!

From the Field - Thank you for sharing!

Abby Díaz from Clark Pleasant Middle School shares the following resources: For free e-books in multiple languages, visit the [Gutenberg Project](#). For good videos and a guide to staying 90% in the target language, check out the Annenberg resources [here!](#)

Don't forget... to connect with us at

www.learningconnection.doe.in.gov & join IDOE's World Language & Cultures Community

Save these dates...

IN-NELL Conference 2017
Saturday, Feb. 25, 2017 in Indianapolis with a theme of "Student Engagement for a Lifetime". Early Bird registration by Feb. 13.

www.in-nell.net

CSCTFL Conference 2017
March 9-11, 2017 in Chicago, IL with a theme of "Performance + Proficiency = Possibilities"

www.csctfl.org

IFLTA Conference 2017
Nov. 2-4, 2017 in Indy!

www.iflta.org

Coming Soon:

We'll continue our journey through the modes of communication this year. And the next mode is ... **Interpersonal Listening & Speaking.**

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ACTFL Resources

Let our national organization help guide you with samples in your language. Click [here](#) to access the webpage. Then, find your language on the left. Click on it and choose your proficiency level see a sample writing at that level. To see the general Can-Do statements that your national leaders crafted for Interpersonal Communication, click [here](#) (pp. 6-11). For the ACTFL performance descriptors for the Interpersonal mode of communication click [here](#).



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