QuaMMELOT

Making movies

The learning goal:

This activity aims at engaging the pupils' collaborative learning and creative expression through the medium of movies. The pupils will learn how to produce movies by doing it themselves, and thereby through practice, they will get an understanding of the different tasks and steps that are important when making movies. The pupils will practice their social competences by working together in teams in the process of producing a movie. They will all have a personal responsibility for a good cooperation in the team and for a good final product.

A movie is a cultural medium that is used for story-telling and creative expression all over the world. Therefore, it is expected that the pupils will have a common framework of reference about movies; it should be a medium that all pupils know and they should have a general understanding of the steps that a movie consist of. However, there might be cultural differences regarding the contents and aesthetics of movies, it is suggested that the teacher encourages a dialogue on the differences in the first session.

The pupils are expected to expand their vocabulary by learning and understanding the concepts (words) relevant when making movies. The pupils will also activate their digital skills, as they will edit the movie through digital programmes.

Preparation:

- Before the session, the teacher has decided on the overall topic for the movies. It could be related to one of the topics that the pupils are taught currently, or it could be genre specific and focus on the features of a specific genre i.e. documentaries, music videos, detective dramas, silent films, short movies, commercials etc. It could also be more general asking the pupils to make a movie about themes like: "a normal day", "faith/beliefs", "family", " youth", " school", "sport", "love", "language" etc. The teacher can find learning material for working with movies and genre specific movies on: https://learnaboutfilm.com/making-a-film/, https://valgfagfilmkundskab.com/
(If the teacher decides to work with music videos, it is suggested that the teacher cooperates with the music teacher on the activity).
- The teacher has prepared the groups, consisting of 4-5 pupils, taking especially into consideration who the newly arrived bilingual pupil should be working with. Should he or she be in a group where one of the pupils speak the same mother tongue? Does he or she have a good friend it could be relevant to group her/him with? Etc.

- It will also be relevant to consider whether there will be words in the presentation of the structure of movies that will need to be explained. Might there be words that none of the pupils actually know the meaning of? Might there be words that will need translation into other languages? The teacher can discuss the complicated words in class, letting the pupils explain how they understand it.

Equipment needed/practicalities:

Depending on the availabilities, the filming equipment could be smartphones, Ipads or a Video recorder

The movies could be edited in programmes like Camera +2 (tutorial introduction: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sCK506mvoPo) and iMotion (tutorial introduction: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHjbEGe6E9I).

The session:
Steps:

1) INTRODUCTION
   Time indicator: 2x45 minutes

   The teacher presents the basic procedure when developing a movie: writing a manuscript and a screenplay, finding actors and film crew, select locations (maybe constructing set), choosing costumes, the actual film shoot, recording sound and visual effects, editing the movie. Obs. The teacher might choose a specific genre and wish to teach this. If so, the teacher will need more time.

   The teacher explains carefully, if the pupils do not understand, some of the words or its meanings i.e. what is a manuscript. The movie should not last longer than 10 minutes. The pupils will be divided into teams of 4-5 persons. The teacher has made the teams on beforehand, and has made sure that the newly arrived bilingual pupils are in groups with one or two pupils, they have a good relation to. They will discuss the theme for their movie. Firstly, they will in turn say the first thing they come to think of related to the theme, then they will brainstorm about the content of their movie and choose how they will work with the overall theme.

2) DEVELOPING THE MOVIE- SCRIPT & LOCATION
   Time indicator: 2x45 minutes x 2

   The pupils will continue their work on their storyline and their central message for the film. If the movie has to be genre specific, the pupils have to discuss which elements in the movie that are important to ensure that it fits the genre. When the raw draft is finished, the pupils will divide the tasks between them in the team. The team will decide on who is going to act

in the movie, who will instruct it and who will film it. Thus, some of the pupils will be responsible for writing the manuscript (the instructor/s), some will be in charge of deciding on the needed locations and costumes (maybe even create parts) (the actors), while yet other pupils in the team will work on their filming skills and get confident in using the editing programme/app (the film-crew).

Homework: the pupils prepare themselves for the film shoot. Some of pupils will have to make sure that they know their phrases for the film shoot, some will ensure that the location and i.e. costumes are ready, while other pupils might be practicing the filming.

3) FILMING
   Time indicator: 2x45 minutes

The next step is to make the film shoot. The actors have had some time to practice their phrases and the needed locations and costumes have been found. The teacher has told the pupils the exact time they have to make the footage. The instructor will be in charge of securing that they keep the time line, and the film crew will be responsible for getting a descent quality of the shoot. If specific sound is needed for the film, the film crew will also be responsible for recording it.

4) EDITING AND ADVERTISEMENT
   Time indicator: 4x45 minutes

After the film shoot, the film-crew will be in charge of editing the movie together with the instructor. The actors from the team will be responsible for making advertisement for the movie, this could be i.e. posters developed in www.canva.com or handmade commercials in art classes.

When the film is edited and ready to show cast, the team will watch it and discuss the last finish. They will discuss their result, the successful elements and the less successful ones. Is the central message of the movie clear and why/how? Then they will be ready to present it for a broader audience.

5) FILMFESTIVAL
   Time indicator 2 x 45 minutes

Film-festival! Depending on the time and possibility in class, the pupils and their parents could be invited to a film-festival, where each team will present their movie by a short introduction on how they worked with the general theme, and why they chose this exact under topic.