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Topic 6, Lesson 3

"Environment and I"

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Before starting

Before starting I would like you to remember that you do not always have to create activities ex novo. There is a huge amount of materials on line to be used. As a professional teacher what you should do is choosing the most suitable ones and adapt them to your teaching.

In the unit which follows you'll find several materials taken online from the National Geographic site, from Steve Cutts' page and many more. You are welcome to make use of this lesson plan and resource that is also made available for you in BlendSpace.



STEP 1: MOTIVATION



This is the most important phase and step of a lesson, to arise curiosity, create the atmosphere and activate interest.

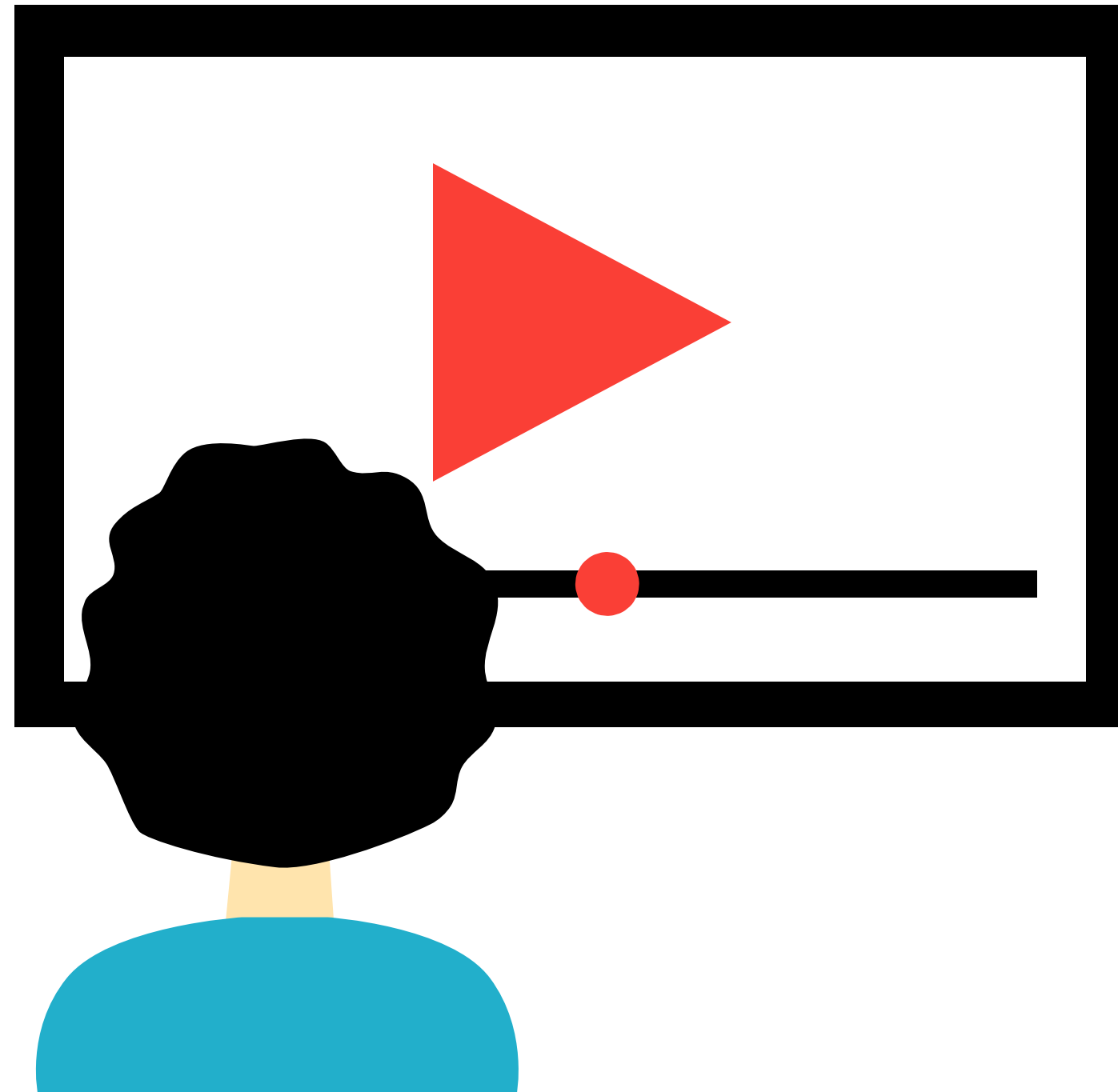
This is the “*conditio sine qua non*” of every starting point.



Instructions

The lesson on the "Environment and I" uses as motivation an animated video created by Steve Cuts. The activities are split as follows:

- Before watching the video
- While watching the video
- After watching the video



Before watching the video



Before viewing the video, just show the students the first image and the title and ask to predict the content of the video with all students being seated in a circle. The video shows basic drawings but ask them nonetheless to name the emotions they perceive on the face of man and snakes. Write the answers for all to see.

While watching the video



While viewing the video, continue naming emotions and words (man, animals and aliens).
No scaffold is given at this stage. It represents a useful inquiry on how difficult (or not) it is for them to name emotions.

Divide the students into groups. Give each group a list of words related to the content mixed with words not related to the content and partly related to it in order to stimulate discussion. Each student in the group has a different list so that you create a jigsaw group to enhance collaboration.

MAN	ANIMALS	ENVIRONMENT/NATURE	EMOTIONS

Give students the possibility to watch the video themselves again and again if needed.

After watching the video



After watching the video, give various tasks to the students in groups.

Some have to "tell the story", and others have to list all the ideas and sensations/ emotions the video "man" by Steve Cutts evokes in them in a brainstorming activity or in a short text.

All the students have to contribute to the map of emotions by answering these questions:

- How did you feel watching this video?
- Does it exaggerate some aspects? If yes, Why?
- Why, in your opinion, does the author use music and pictures and not words?

You can scaffold by offering possible answers for them to choose from.

TIP: You can use Coggle in collaborative mode for some of these activities.

Examples of Expressions: A List



PRE-viewing				
happy	welcoming	open	friendly	trusting
funny face	balanced	relaxed	showing no fear or suspicion	confident
smiling				

Examples of Expressions: A List



WHILE-viewing				
Calm	peaceful	aggressive	relaxed	disrespectful
balanced	no empathy	no respect for life	kills for pleasure	confident
kills for greed, desire, power, fun	no respect for life, living beings	pleased with himself	self-centered	sadist
kills and exploits animals showing no respect for life	no remorse at all	building and polluting	with no respect for the environment he lives in	greed
disappointed	king of nothing	pleased with himself	transforming the Earth into a landfill	using living beings as objects
unaware of what evil he is	angry	essence of human race	desires	downfall of our kind

Examples of Expressions: A List



WHILE-viewing				
destruction	indifference to nature limits and laws	excess of modern society	demolition	waste
biochemical product	no empathy	no respect for life	kills for pleasure	confident
crush and looted nature,	journey through time	materialism	assault on nature and natural resources	depressing
exaggerated	hyperbolic	biting	satirizing	dark
conveys a message	warning	irony	oppressor	driven by his desires

Post - viewing



An example of a short text to complete



Fill in the blanks with the correct words:

greed, desires

“The theme in the short film Man is Humans will not stop to anything in order to satisfy their.....”

Video Description



In this video, any place the man goes, entire creatures and plants endure calamities; snakes transform into cowhide boots, winged animals are shot dead, seals are used for coats, and the elephant transforms into a piano. The man tosses lethal waste into the ocean, butchers numerous fish, experiments with biochemical products and weapons on creatures, and makes trees into books. At the end of the video world has been changed into a giant landfill. Just huge amounts of waste and nonliving machines. Man has turned into the ruler of the world, the king of nothing. The aliens, probably man's creators, see that the earth has been demolished by him. They are disappointed and angry. They kill and smash him and leave.

Music and rhetorical devices

The music, Is the Hall of the Mountain by Edward Grieg. It contributes to and highlights the severity of the situation. Hyperbole is used, everyday actions are exaggerated to convey a message.

Resources



Steve Cutts (2012) Man (Video). YouTube.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WfGMYdalCIU>



Carla Marsili (2022) "Environment and I"
<https://www.blendspace.com/lessons/XpftwAaM17FQAQ/environment-and-i>

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