

Cultural Show and Tell

FOREIGN LANGUAGE



Overview

Students present an object or tradition from a culture where the target language is spoken, practicing descriptive language and cultural knowledge.

Steps for Teachers

1. Discuss cultures associated with the target language
2. Students research and select a cultural item or tradition
3. Students learn vocabulary specific to their topic
4. Students write a presentation script in the target language
5. Students create visuals representing their cultural item
6. Students record their presentation with enthusiasm
7. Create a cultural museum with all student presentations

Example

A Japanese student presents origami. Student character holds paper crane: 'Kore wa origami desu. Origami wa Nihon no dentouteki na asobi desu. "Ori" wa "to fold" to iu imi de, "kami" wa "paper" desu. Kono tsuru wa "senbazuru" no hitotsu desu. Nihon de wa, sen no tsuru wo oru to, negai ga kanau to iimasu. Watashi no obaachan ga oshiete kuremashita.' (This is origami. Origami is a traditional Japanese art. 'Ori' means 'fold' and 'kami' means 'paper.' This crane is part of 'senbazuru.' In Japan, they say if you fold 1000 cranes, your wish comes true. My grandmother taught me.)

Grading Rubric

Criteria	Excellent	Proficient	Developing
Cultural Knowledge	Accurate, detailed cultural information	Generally accurate cultural content	Inaccurate or superficial cultural information
Descriptive Language	Rich descriptions using varied vocabulary	Adequate descriptive language	Limited descriptive vocabulary
Personal Connection	Shares why this item is meaningful	Some personal connection expressed	No personal connection to topic
Presentation Skills	Engaging and clear presentation in target language	Understandable presentation	Difficult to follow or understand