Wortschatzspiel

Junior Cycle Modern Foreign Language
Target Language - German

Strand 2 - Language Awareness
Elements - Reflecting on how they learn languages
Learning Outcomes - 2.6 & 2.7

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Wortschatzspiel

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Wortschatzspiel is a technique to help pupils learn vocabulary in German more effectively. The resource contains teacher's notes and a grid for the pupils to complete.

How it maps to the curriculum

JC German

STRAND: 2. Language Awareness

STRAND UNIT: 3. How you Learn a Language

> SUGGESTIONS FOR USE: Provide each pupil with the grid showing different locations at school. Following the learning of new vocabulary on any given topic, invite the pupils to write the words in different boxes on the grid. The pupils then associate the new words with the locations and learn them accordingly. By walking around the school locations in their head they are able to memorise the vocabulary more effectively.

KEY SKILLS: Being Creative

Wortschatzspiel

Wortschatzspiel is a technique to help pupils learn vocabulary more effectively. It is based on Aristotle's famous 'memento loci' – memory of places.

Teacher's Notes:

Choose a list of words that the pupils are to learn on any given topic.

Wortschatzspiel allows for up to twelve words but can also be used in multiples of twelve.

Wortschatzspiel

das Klassenzimmer	die Sporthalle	der Parkplatz	das Sprachlabor
die Toilette	der Spielplatz	der Musiksaal	das Physiklabor
die Aula	die Bibliothek	der Tennisplatz	der Speisesaal

1. The grid shows twelve locations around a normal school. These can be adapted for your own school location.

1. Pupils put one word in each box under a location.

1. They then memorise the word according to its location around the school.

1. When asked to recall the vocabulary, they simply walk around the school in their head and the location helps them remember the word.

2. As a variation, instead of school, pupils could use their own home, their town or a park and adapt accordingly.

Wortschatzspiel

Access the activity sheets here.

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