

Bedrooms Around the World

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1. Overview and Objectives

Activity Overview

This lesson practices describing things, in this case, bedrooms in various countries. Students are encouraged to think about how they live and the lives of people in other countries.

Learning Objectives

General Objectives	To learn about the surface culture of other countries by describing bedrooms around the world.
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Keywords	surface culture, culture awareness
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2. Activity Context

This activity was designed for a “General English” course, geared towards 1st year University students. However, it should be applicable to other teaching contexts such as Junior/High School students.

Students

Number of students	2 Min.	100 Max.
Do students need to use a second language?	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> No
What is the second language?	English	
Level(s) in target language:* * These levels are approximations; use your judgement * For activities related to English, please try to allocate the minimum level within the continuum on the right. * See appendix at the end of this document for reference about these mastery levels.	Elementary school or younger Beginner CEFR A1 IELTS 1.0-2.0 TOEIC 120-220 √ Pre-intermediate CEFR A2 IELTS 2.5-3.0 TOEIC 225-500 Intermediate CEFR B1 IELTS 3.5-4.5 TOEIC 500-700 Advanced-Intermediate CEFR B2/C1 IELTS 5.0-6.5 TOEIC 700-900 Advanced CEFR C1 / C2 IELTS 7.0 + TOEIC 900+	

Comments

The above minimum level of English mastery is just a reference. Specifically, in order to carry out this activity it is necessary for the students to be able to describe scenes, objects, pictures, etc. In this sense, it is perhaps a good idea to review adjective and preposition usage, particularly those that can be useful to describe a bedroom

3. Activity Materials & Prep

Activity Duration

Total duration in minutes:	45-50
How many sessions?	1
Any homework?	No

Materials

Material # 1 Title:	Website
Material Type:	Webpage/website
Material Access:	https://brightside.me/wonder-places/this-photographer-showed-peoples-bedrooms-from-all-over-the-world-246260/

Material #2 Title:	Countries
Material Type:	Blank paper
Material Access:	Can be purchased locally


Set-Up Instructions

1. Prepare one slip of paper for each student. Each slip should name a country from the website.
2. If necessary, review language for describing scenes and pictures, as explained on the comments of the Activity Context section.
Estimated Set Up Time (min.): 5-15m

4. Activity Description

Suggested Time	Activity Instructions
10	Ask students to take out their smart phones and go to the website listed in material 1. Students are usually quite interested in the pictures, so give them time to look at them.
5	Give each student a slip of paper with a country written on it (material 2). Make sure students don't show their paper to their partner. Ask students to find the photo of the bedroom for their country and think about how they can describe it.
20	Students work in pairs. They take turns to describe the room while their partner scrolls through the photos, looking for the room being described. Partners can ask questions to help them guess.
15	Once everyone has described/chosen a room, ask students if they noticed anything about the photos. Depending on their awareness, you may need to guide them. What was the same about the rooms? What was different? Why are some rooms nicely furnished and full of items and others not? Did anything surprise them?

Appendix

TOEFL	IELTS	TOEIC	Cambridge exam	CEFR Level	Skill level
 Comparison chart of English certificates to European levels					HigherEd me
118-120	9		CPE	C2	Mastery or proficiency
115-117	8.5		CPE	C2	
110-114	8	975-990	CAE / CPE	C2/C1	
102-109	7.5	966-974	CAE	C1	Effective operational proficiency
94-101	7	945-965	CAE	C1	
79-93	6.5	900-960	FCE	C1/B2	Vantage or upper intermediate
65-78	5.5-6.0	785-940	FCE	B2	
53-64	4.5-5	785-795	FCE	B2/B1	
41-52	4	670-780	PET	B1	Threshold or intermediate
35-40	3.5	550-665	PET	B1	
30-34	3	225-545	KET	A2	
19-29	2.0-2.5	171-220		A1	Waystage or elementary
0-18	1.0 - 1.5	120 -170		A1	
					Breakthrough or beginner

Source: <http://www.higheredme.com/2017/04/11/english-test-comparison/>