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| **TRANSITION YEAR UNITS** | |
| 1. **Title of Transition Unit** | |
| German | |
| 1. **Area of Study** | |
| Academic Core Subject | |
| 1. **Overview** | |
| * To develop the four skills of listening, reading, speaking and writing. * To encourage learner autonomy. * To broaden awareness of Germany and German-speaking countries and their culture. * To promote German as a living language. | |
| 1. **Links** | |
| Building on the 4 skills acquired for the Junior Certificate with special emphasis on developing student’s oral and cultural knowledge for the Leaving Certificate. | |
| 1. **Summary Outline of the Unit** | |
| **September to Christmas**  Students will prepare a short story based on picture-sequences *“Bildergeschichten”* and will undertake an oral exam to describe their pictures in detail through German before the mid-term. They will design a collage based on these pictures and this will also be included in the credit system.  Brain-storming and information session with the use of powerpoint on Germany, its culture and its people.  Students will read comprehensions from “*Ausblick”*. They will answer questions and carry out the quiz’s given.  Worksheets for roughly 3 *areas of grammar* will be used.  Extra auf Deutch – The students will be shown a German sitcom 4x 20min shows based on 4 German teenagers who get a visit from an American Friend. It is humorous simple German helpful before watching German films.  *Preparation for a German Christmas*. Advent, Chriskindle, Weihnachtsplätzchen will form part of this.  **January to March**  The students will keep a diary about the daily activities in Ty life. This will be collected and corrected once a week.  The students will complete a ITC based project by midterm. Each student will be assigned a German state. They must create a power point presentation in German with a minimum of 11 slides and a maximum of 16 slides about this state. They will then present their information in simple German to the class.  To this end a complete *revision of present and past tenses* and topic preparation as necessary.  The students will carry out listening exercises from ‘Wie Bitte’/Horthemen  A German “*Frűhstűck” or breakfast* will be arranged.  Topics on composers, artists, sports stars, food, festivals and songs will be included where appropriate and where time allows. Another 2 literary extracts will be read.  One film will be prepared and shown in class this term: “Jenseits der Stille”/ Der Untergang  The students will be given a 5 min oral challenge about topics prepared in class such as where they live, family, hobbies and school.  Revision of grammar areas for *February test*.  Frau Kati Schulz will visit to show us an interesting *egg painting technique* from the old East Germany as preparation for Easter.  **April to June**  Students will work as above.  During this term we hope to show another prize-winning *film from Germany* on video.  An *oral challenge of 5 minutes* will be required from each student.  Preparation for above. On-going reading, writing and listening.  *Kaffee und Kuchen* session if time allows. The students will be encouraged to make their own cakes to a German recipe for this.  **Genera**l  A language and cultural exchange with Maria Ward Gymnasium in Augsburg will hopefully take place. The students will be matched up with their partners in January and will begin online contact with each other. The German students will visit Ireland with their teachers in February for a week and the Irish students will return to Germany with their teacher in April for one week.  Information on **exchanges and homestays** will be given out on demand. It is hoped that a lot of the students will visit a German–speaking country this year. | |
| 1. **Breakdown of the Unit** | |
| 3 classes per week. Approximately 60 hours in total.  Teacher led classroom work balanced with oral, listening and independent written work. | |
| 1. **Aims** | |
| *This Transition Unit aims to:* | |
| * To develop oral, aural, written and comprehension skills. * To build on students’ knowledge of grammar and further develop general language awareness and language structures. * To encourage learner autonomy through ICT work. | |
| 1. **Learning Outcomes** | |
| *On completion of this unit students should be able to:* | |
| * Answer questions and give details from recorded material in German. * Extract relevant specific information from a range of articles and texts. * Produce written material in German, communicating feelings and activities relevant to their day to day routine in TY. * Engage in a general conversation on topics covered throughout the year. | |
| 1. **Key Skills** | **How evidenced** |
| **Information Processing** | Learners will access information from a range of sources and communication technologies in relation to topics being studied i.e. vocabulary, grammar, cultural matters.  They will develop the ability to process and record acquired information appropriately and in context, to use this knowledge in assessment and productive tasks |
| **Critical and Creative Thinking** | Learners will learn to develop analytical skill through comprehensions.  Learners should be encouraged to think imaginatively in the application of vocabulary and grammatical structures. |
| **Communicating** | Learners will engage in listening and dialogue around relevant topics within the group and also in pair work.  Learners will improve their communication skills in the target language through listening, oral preparation and pair work. |
| **Working with Others** | Willingness, commitment, developing confidence in working in pairs in the target language. |
| **Being Personally Effective** | Learners will become more confident, evaluate their performance and achieve personal goals by their involvement in class activities and pair work.  Personal effectiveness and independent learning will develop within the student due to weekly self assessment. |
| 1. **Methodologies** | |
| Whole class teaching i.e. grammar, vocabulary  Pair work i.e. role plays, oral presentations  Use of ICT i.e. cultural and language building / drilling websites  Student self-assessment (weekly)  Producing lyrics for songs as in concert attended  Using DVD/Video and accompanying worksheets  Independent use of dictionary  Demonstrations from external experts | |
| 1. **Assessment Methods** | |
| **Ongoing**  Self-assessment weekly evaluation sheet  Journal and worksheets | **Culminative**  Project/ PowerPoint  February Test  5 minute oral challenge |
| 1. **Evaluation** | |
| Learners will complete a self evaluation sheet and discuss with teacher. Key questions will include What skills they have learned? And What skills do they still need to build up on and how?  Students will learn to take responsibility for their own progress in the four skills of language acquisition. | |
| 1. **Resources** | |
| Horthemen Junior- listening exercises  Handouts from ‘Ausblick’  German Films/ Video’s  Grammar and Comprehension Hand-outs  Use of I.T. websites for grammar and project work  Languagesonline.org.uk  BBC.co.uk  Videos  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**14. Literacy and Numeracy** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  **Literacy** : Students will learn Key words and keep a record of them in their hard back.  When reading a text students will:  Scan a text, read for meaning, underline key words and translate into English,  The students will regularly produce written pieces of work, research information online, and evaluate work done.  **Numeracy**: Students will identify page numbers in German, they will learn to time their work, scan a text to find line numbers. They will also estimate how long exercises require to be completed. | |