**Currency Lesson Notes weeks 1-4**

Overall Section Aims:

* To give students an appreciation of “quiet” media
* To encourage students to look for the sub-text in graphics and images
* To encourage the expression of critical thinking
* To introduce a wide range of vocabulary connected with the above

Week 1 – Intro to money

1. Students complete the **1. Money Money Money** questionnaire for themselves and a partner. This just gets students thinking about how they use money and introduces some basic vocab.
2. Run through the **2. Money Quiz** . This gets the students into the frame of mind to start examining some of the assumptions they have about money.
3. Present the **3. Target Vocab** for this section.
4. Run through the **4a.** **Banknotes of World** presentation. (see also **4b. banknotes of the world notes**) Elicit as many ideas as to the content and meaning as possible at this stage. It is important that the students do not see the teacher as an expert in the esoteric intricacies of banknote design as this might inhibit their own confidence in offering opinions and ideas to the class. “I think this might symbolize…”
5. Elicit some other currencies. Get students into random pairs and give them a real banknote. Give them 5 - 10 minutes to come up with as many ideas as they can about it. They then walk around and give 1 minute presentations to other pairs.

Week 2 – Looking At Image Sub-Texts

1. Give the **5.** **Vocab Test**
2. Inform the Students that they are going to create a presentation about a foreign currency. This will give them a good grounding in the kinds of elements, symbols and symbolism that commonly appear on banknotes. Show the **6a. Currency of North Korea** presentation. The imagery and symbolism on these notes are accessible and comprehensible to the students. (**see also 6b. North Korean Won notes**) Students fill out the **7. North Korean Won** gap fill introduction paper. This is a model for the students to follow.
3. Each pair chooses a country at random – watch out for countries that use common currencies (see Appendix A). It’s better to use clearly different currencies that are reasonably stable. (see Appendix B). It’s quite fun to spin the Wheel of Fortune (Appendix C) to decide country /currency. A good starting point is for students to gather as much info about the country focusing on location, geography, political system, historical interest points and cultural points. A look through Google Images also gives a rough overview of the country.

Week 3 – Thinking critically

1. 1 pc for each pair – Show how to make Slide 1 (Title) and Slide 2 (Country info). This assumes that Students have only very basic PowerPoint skills or none at all. Slide 1 font / colours etc should try to reflect the feeling of the country.
2. Show how to make Slides 2-6. Copy and Paste images of 4 of the banknotes, front and reverse. No detail needs to be added at this stage.
3. Go through the **8. 5000 Yen Banknote** gap fill document. Again, this provides the students with a model of language in which to frame their own ideas.
4. Students then continue with their own presentation, adding key words to the slides and creating a notes sheet for themselves to reference when they give their presentations.

Week 4 – Application

1. Students continue with creating presentations
2. Students give presentations. I’ve found 3 or 4 simultaneous presentations to small groups works best. Students sign up for the two presentations they want to watch. Students should ask questions. This format produces noticeable improvements in student focus, interaction and motivation over the standard “two at the front of the class” approach. Students complete the Currency Comparison worksheet and hand it in.
3. Students then go back and add any new insights or information to their notes and record the notes as narration onto their presentations. This will most likely require some technical instruction. The narrated presentation is good artifact to grade.

Appendix A – Common Currencies

**Euro** (Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, San Marino, Vatican, Monaco, Andorra, Kosovo, Montenegro.

**African CFA** (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Congo, Ivory Coast, Guinea. Gabon, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Togo.

**Caribbean Dollar** (Anguilla, Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Monserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent.

**Australian Dollar** (Australia, Kiribati, Nauru, Tuvalu)

**South African Rand** (South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland,)

**US Dollar** (USA, Ecuador, Panama, El Salvador)

Appendix B – Unique Currencies (of interest)

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Afghanistan / Afghani | Haiti / Gourde | Saudi Arabia / Riyal |
| Algeria / Dinar | Botswana / Pula | Hungary / Forint |
| Argentina / Peso | Iran / Rial | Sri Lanka / Sri Lankan Rupee |
| Bhutan / Ngultrum | Israel / Shekel | Sweden / Krone |
| Bolivia/ Boliviano | Latvia / Lats | Switzerland / Swiss Franc |
| Brazil / Real | Lebanon / Lebanese Pound | Syria / Syrian Pound |
| Cambodia / Riel | Liberia / Liberian Dollar | Thailand / Baht |
| Canada / Canadian Dollar | Macedonia / Denar | Tonga / Pa anga |
| China / Yuan | Malawi / Kacha | Tunisia / Dinar |
| Croatia / Kuna | Mexico / Mexican Peso | Turkey / Turkish Lira |
| Denmark / Krone | Mongolia / Tugrik | Ukraine / Hryvna |
| Egypt / Egyptian Pound | Myanmar / Kyat | Romania / Leu |
| Ethiopia / Birr | Nigeria / Naira | Uruguay / Uruguayan Peso |
| Gambia / Dalasi | Oman / Omani Rial | Vietnam / Dong |
| Ghana / Cedi | Papua New Guinea / Kina | Uzbekistan / Sum |
| Guatemala / Quetzal | Poland / Zloty | Morocco / Dirham |

Appendix C – Country / Currency Wheel of Fortune:

<http://wheeldecide.com/index.php?c1=Algeria+%2F+Dinar&c2=Argentina+%2F+Peso&c3=Bhutan+%2F+Ngultrum&c4=Bolivia+%2F+Boliviano&c5=Brazil+%2F+Real&c6=Cambodia+%2F+Riel&c7=Croatia+%2F+Kuna&c8=Denmark+%2F+Krone&c9=Haiti+%2F+Gourde&c10=Botswana+%2F+Pula&c11=Iran+%2F+Rial&c12=Isreal+%2F+Shekel&c13=Latvia+%2F+Lats&c14=Liberia+%2F+Liberian+Dollar&c15=Malawi+%2F+Kacha&c16=Mexico+%2F+Mexican+Peso&c17=Mongolia+%2F+Tugrik&c18=Hungary+%2F+Forint&c19=Switzerland+%2F+Swiss+Franc&c20=Thailand+%2F+Baht&c21=Turkey+%2F+Turkish+Lira&c22=Nigeria+%2F+Naira&c23=Vietnam+%2F+Dong&c24=Poland+%2F+Zloty&c25=Ethiopia+%2F+Birr&c26=Guatemala+%2F+Quetzal&c27=&t=Countries+and+Currencies&col=beach&time=5&width=&cols=&tcol=&x=78&y=20>