

World and Native Languages Newsletter



Arizona Department of Education
K-12 Academic Standards

September 2019

UPCOMING TRAININGS, WORKSHOPS, AND EVENTS

- 9/21—[AZLA Conference](#)
- 9/27—[LiLaC: Literatures, Languages and Cultures in 21st Century](#)
- 11/16—[LaTes: Genre Matters in Contextualized World Language—CERCLL](#)
- 11/22-24—[ACTFL National Conference](#)
- 1/23-26—[Intercultural Competence Conference](#)
- 4/2-5—[Southwest Conference on Language Teaching](#)

[NSLI-Y](#) and [Congress Bundestag](#) high school student study abroad programs applications are now open. Encourage your students to apply!!

World Language Webinars

You may be the only teacher in your school that teaches your language. You may be the only teacher in your district that teaches your language. How do you get valuable professional development? Webinars. There are many online webinar resources for language teachers. Here are a few....

[Beyond the Bell](#)

[ACTFL's Learning Portal](#)

[NCDPI](#)—These are back east so we may be in school, but check out the archives.

FUN FRIDAY ROUTINE

Get your kids excited for the weekend and all that they learned from the week. Have them spell out Friday in the target language and create a class cheer, while you ask them what day is today!

Give me a

V—I—E—R—N—E—S!

V—E—N—D—R—E—D—I!

F—R—E—I—T—A—G!

N—D—A' I—I—N—Í—Í—S—H!

TIP OF THE MONTH—PEER OBSERVATIONS

A great way to improve your teaching is through the observation of other teachers. Seek out other teachers within your department to notice strategies for how they engage students, what type of classroom climate they have created to make students feel comfortable in a language classroom. Don't just limit your peer observations to just world language teachers. If you have an outstanding and dynamic teacher on your campus, ask to visit them as well!

When observing others, keep in mind there is no right or wrong way to observe your peers. Remember your goal is to seek out how the teacher is helping their students understand the content.

During an observation look for the following:

- Which [comprehension supports](#) does the teacher use?
- [What kinds of questions](#) does the teacher ask?
- How does the teacher [control the pace](#) of the lesson?
- How does the teacher ensure that input is not just comprehensible, but [comprehended](#)?
- How does the teacher [create connections](#) between students, between students and the teacher, and between students and the world?

Take the time to reflect on what you saw after the observation, and start to consider next steps you could take to incorporate some of the good ideas you saw. The [Comprehensible Classroom](#) has some great language-based observation forms you can use to document what you see.

Lastly don't forget to write a simple thank you note to the teacher you observed making sure to say something positive that you took from the lesson they taught.

[AZLA Teacher of the Year](#) applications are available!!

Deadline to apply
September 20, 2019

RESOURCES

[Creative Language Class](#)—This site contains many free ideas, downloads and professional development all geared toward language teachers.

[We Teach Languages Podcast](#)—This podcast has over a hundred episodes that focus on things like developing listening skills to using silence as a tool in a classroom. Each podcast comes with additional resources.

[We Are Teachers](#)—This website had articles, free downloadable posters, and classroom ideas. Besides world languages, search for basic classroom posters, ideas, and articles.

[Creative Language Class](#)—This website has unit plans, adaptable activities, and even sub plans. While the site is for Spanish, you can easily gear any lesson or idea to your language.

SPOTLIGHT ON CONSTITUTION DAY

On September 17th we celebrate Constitution Day. Use this day to focus on how the Constitution has influenced the countries of the languages you teach. For example, throughout Latin America the Constitution influenced leaders like Simon Bolivar and the constitutions of Argentina, Mexico, and Venezuela. It also had a huge impact the French Revolution and Robespierre. The 1848 German constitutional assembly references the U.S. Constitution and Federalist Papers. You can also find references in the constitutions of India, Japan, and the Philippines. You can also use Constitution Day as a means of studying other civic holidays in the countries of the languages you teach. Have students compare [U.S. civic holidays](#) like Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, Constitution Day to civic holidays in your target language country.

