



Day 1 Session: Empathy and Intercultural Understanding with “Drama Education”

Method: Drama education

Length: 90 minutes

Aim: To enhance communication between participants and empathy; to get an overview of cultural awareness of different countries and to have fun.

Description: Five teams are formed, this time according to distance from home.

By using different drama methods. Each team gets a task which includes uniform case and method description. Sometime will be given and they must perform the task. Every member will get a task in the team, these who are not involved with performance will be a timekeeper, an observer, a critic etc. After each team’s presentation one selected team will reflect the results.

The name of the scenario: *cultural awareness and expression*

Description: VET student, Marta, female, 52 years old is having her first internship in another country. Her language is not very good, and it has taken a lot of time to motivate her to go to internship. She has a family at home: husband and two children – (15 and 17 years of age). After one week of internship (the total amount of internship is six weeks), her 17 years old daughter calls her to inform that her younger sister is pregnant and is thinking of abortion. The student immediately wants to go home. The first person she turned to was her supervisor at her school in her native town. But she could get in touch with the supervisor. Then she turned to her supervisor at the organisation she is having her internship. But this supervisor wants to talk to the school supervisor at first.

1st team: Dignity, respect, empathy

Drama method: Smart/ clever and slow/ clueless

Based on Marta’s case the Clever ones state and justify sentences related to dignity, respect, empathy – how to follow them as effectively as possible in the case.

The Clueless ones start asking the Clever one’s various clarifying questions, as if they do not understand the content of the sentences

2nd team: Empowerment of people – improvisation with intonation. Experiment with changing the Basic tone of speech in sentences in such a way that it is once demotivating and once empowering- Say one sentence to Marta twice, but with different tones. Some examples that you can use, but feel free to add your own.

Sentences:

1. I will never see you again, if you leave now.
2. How could she do that?
3. I have never heard anything like this before!
4. Can you help her?
5. Come back, I know everything will be fine
6. Well, then, you go!
7. How inspiring you are going to be a grandmother.

3rd team: proactive language use. Tell Marta's story. Each team member says one sentence, starting with "The bad news is " or "The good news is " In the latter case use proactive wording.

4th team: Hot seat: engaging the person in need and her network. Marta is worried about her underage daughter who has become pregnant and wants to terminate the pregnancy. Marta wants to rush home to discuss the issue with her daughter and if possible, change her mind. One of you will play the role of Marta and sit on a chair in front of the others. The rest will start asking Marta questions about her motives, feelings, opinions, and relationships. The character "Marta" can fantasize according to the logic of the role. During preparation, you should decide who represents whom in Marta's network and what questions they will ask. The goal is to understand Marta's motives and attitudes to better comprehend the complexity of human behaviour and it should also reveal cultural awareness. Ultimately the aim is to find a possible solution together with Marta and NOT for Marta.

5th team: tableau* – collaboration among different specialists/ professionals. Think of Marta's people who are involved with Marta's case. Each person takes one role of the case and freezes into a pose representing it, creating a human sculpture. Later the audience can start guessing which scene from Marta's life this might be and when the event host touches someone's shoulder, it gives that character the right to move and speak (tableau vivant),

*"Tableau" is a theater and drama technique of French origin, in which actors create a silent image or scene, depicted through the placement of people and objects. The image is typically static and silent, with the aim of conveying a visual scene or emotion to the audience without dialogue or movement.

15 minutes

Follow up