Topic: Migration - workshop Literature

Teachers: Vicky TERNES, French language teacher

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# Content: An interactive workshop in two steps

1. Writing poetry (Thursday/Saturday)

In this workshop, students are supposed to write (elaborate) a *common poem* that will be presented at the Closing Ceremony. For the structure of the poem - a simple and modern formula - we will start with a poem written by Garcia Rodriguez, a renowned, contemporary Spanish author, born and living in Buenos Aires (Argentina). This writer, scenarios’ maker, dramaturge, whose plays and poems are translated and played all over the world, surprises by the strength of his language - sometimes very rough and terrifying- that unavoidably preoccupies the reader. He points out social inequities, such as the exploitation of minors, child work or sexual abuse. His writings - and specifically the poem that will inspire us, lean towards a terrific statement, inquiring our part of responsibility.

The students are not supposed to know already the poem of Rodrigo Garcia before our meeting. We prefer discovering the text together with all the participants.

Obviously, the conclusion of “our poem” is not yet written: it depends on the ideas and contributions of our participants. The contributors will be invited to think about their leisure time activities, their main interests beyond the classroom and the school curriculum, their mind settings about essential topics and policies. They will compare these initiatives to peers living in different conditions (immigrant background, poverty, social exclusion ...).

Michel and I are convinced this workshop will produce a strong, precious and interesting *poem about adolescents’ vision of Europe*.

1. Discovering literature (Friday)

Michel and I will work on the text parts proposed by the students (Cf. Pretask). We will study these texts as soon as we receive them by email and we will assemble the documents to a booklet that will be distributed to each participant of the workshop. We will synthesize- before we meet- these contributions and work out the main ideas that will be presented to the participants. In the second part of this workshop, participants will discuss these writings, establish a list of hot topics, continue writing different texts if there is enough time left , … and prepare a short sequence of a presentation.

## Pretask

For the second part of the workshop, every participant is supposed to select an already existing document (100-200 words max.) written in English language: this may be a poem, an extract of a novel, a play, a song ….

The subject has to be about ***Roots*** (heritages, values, identity, or the lack of roots, loss of identity, immigration…).

The deadline for sending us the contributions is the 15th of January 2014.

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