Task-based Language Lesson Plan
Examples of Chinese, Georgian, and Vietnamese Languages
Lesson Series: Traditions, Festivals, and Celebrations

By Han-Hua Chao, Shorena Kurtsikidze, Kim Pham

Sample Lesson: “Local Thanksgivings”
Zhongqiu Festival (Chinese)
Têt-Trung-Thu (Vietnamese)
Giorgoba (Georgian)

The goal of this lesson is to better motivate learners and engage their interest in target language cultures through the topic of “Traditional Festivals and Celebrations.”

Duration of the lesson: 1.5 hrs.

Pre-task Preparation: Depending on what the target language is (in this case Chinese, Georgian or Vietnamese), the students are asked to repeat numbers, names of days and months of year, and the basic vocabulary and useful phrases/expressions related to family and table/food.

Starting task/teacher-led task (recording and text-based task): Time-frame – 15 min.
*Students are divided in groups.
*The teacher dictates (or – alternatively – asks the students to listen to a recording of) familiar words and phrases from a short passage (a new passage, not something from a textbook) – that the students will have to write down. The sample words (for the Georgian language class) are given on page 3.

Problem-solving task: Time-frame – 30 min.
*Each group is asked to discuss the dictated words and phrases and predict and “assemble” a possible story by creating sentences with the given materials.
*One student in the group is assigned to look for the appropriate verbs in the dictionary; another student is designated as an “ambassador” while the others are creating sentences and working on creating the story.
*The students are allowed to use additional words and phrases of their choice.
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Discussion and Comparison task: Time-frame – 15 min.
*Once each group has come up with the story/description, they summarize it and share and discuss their story with the other groups. Alternatively, the “spokesperson” of the group presents the story before the other groups.
*The groups compare their stories.

Viewing of a video recording: Time-frame – 5 min.
*The teacher shows a 5-minute video of one of the above festivals. The video contains all the relevant words and phrases that were introduced to the students at the beginning of the lesson.

Analyzing and Discussing the video materials: Time-frame – 15 min.
The students compare the video materials to the stories they have created. They are then asked to identify the familiar words and expressions in the video materials they have just viewed.

Quiz: Time-frame – 5 min.
Up to 10 true/false questions regarding the video materials.

Sharing personal experiences about a favorite holiday: Time-frame – 5 min.
The students are asked to think about their favorite holidays/celebrations and are asked to prepare for the next class by producing a brief story of their favorite holiday to share and discuss it with other students for the next lesson.
Sample words for the Georgian language class
(to be dictated by the teacher during the starting task)

გორი George
daba / georgian birthday
dlsishashvelo celebration
dagheba bselba many people
djemba wine
dqenba beer
domanto dumplings
sazemlo food
dqare bread
yoghurt Cake
dagheba every year
dagheba year
dqaratedo candle
booba bowl
doob month
6 daba May 6th
23 nombruzo November 23rd
mtns mountains
dqerba horse
domato popular
dubani twice
sodzemo toast
simtelo candle
fl sbgala/sobgala visit
dazm in the morning
dazm in the evening
at home
inside
outside
a lot of
wine cellar
competition
song
dance