

English and Culture: Methodology of Culture for Teachers of English

Inquiry-based Project Learning: Project of Statues and Sculptures in Dublin City



Inquiry-based Learning Projects (IBLp) “Exploring” – “Investigating” – “Processing” – “Creating”

“Statues and Sculptures in Dublin City”

Exploring:

- Internet sources for the investigation: (Public Art in Dublin, Statues and Stories in Dublin- A Star Backpackers)
- Preparing for Vox Pop: Preparing a Table of Statues and Sculptures for the Survey the Irish Public about their Knowledge & Attitudes towards their Statues
- Table shared on Google Drive: <https://drive.google.com/drive/my-drive>
- Questionnaire for the Interview shared on Google Drive:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/my-drive>

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Investigating:

- Finding location & taking photographic evidence of the statues
- Interviewing local people in the street, pubs, shopping centers, bus stops etc. in groups of 3 & completing the table
- Note-taking about the nicknames & stories they associated with the statues
- Appreciating the friendliness and cordiality of the Irish Public

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Processing:

- ▶ Data Analysis: the most frequently mentioned statues, known nicknames, likes & dislikes about them, reasons for their popularity or disapproval, general attitude determined by age-group belongings or social status etc.
- ▶ Reflection to the Survey Results: percentage of expected or unexpected mentioning, conclusion & critical thinking about the importance of statues in urban human life etc.
- ▶ Raising Critical Cultural Awareness: how statues & sculptures (as pieces of Art) reflect the Irish way of thinking & attitude to life, comparisons with our cultural aspects

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Our Project as a Classroom Material

1. Vocabulary tasks:

- Teaching art, history & social study vocabulary via the themes that the statues represent
- Developing vocabulary via realising existing nicknames & devising new nicknames for the statues

2. Developing logical thinking by tasks:

- Predicting, matching, making comparisons, giving directions

3. Developing listening skills by tasks:

- Listening to talking statutes for gist & details
- Listening to your partner’s picture description & drawing

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4. Developing communication skills by tasks:

- **Picture descriptions**
- **Task-based Field Projects in connection with the themes**
- **Co-operation with the other students in teams in the Inquiry-based Learning Projects like this one: “Contexts4Content” Approach**

5. Developing creative writing skills:

- **Creating nicknames for some statues & sculptures on display that haven’t got them yet**
- **Write similar stories for the statues that haven’t got them yet**
- **Create a top 10 list of must-see statues in Dublin City & the a city in your own area**