



El Carnaval

Spanish A2

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COMPASS

ENHANCING MOTIVATION OF
OLDER LEARNERS TO LEARN
THROUGH CULTURE

El Carnaval (Carnival)

Type of activity	Blended. The activities proposed in this document can be carried out face-to-face or in a blended format, where some activities are self-study activities.
Language and level	Spanish A2
Estimated time	1 hour
Skills covered	Listening, reading, speaking, intercultural
Relation to cultural heritage	<p>✕ Traditions & clothing</p> <p>Carnival is a festivity that is thought to be related to the festive season occurring before the Christian Lent. Some others believe that it is also related to Roman solstice festival, the Saturnalia, where participants ate and drank in excess in public celebrations. In any case, both theories coincide that Carnival involved celebrations on the streets, street parties, costumes, masks and lots of eating and drinking. Carnival, nowadays, is celebrated in relation to the Christian Lent, which means it always takes place around February and March.</p> <p>People dress up, walk around the city in large parades organised in groups that, often, prepare coordinated choreographies. In Spain, almost every village, town and city has its own Carnival parades and celebrations, with small differences among them. Carnival in the Canary Islands, Cadiz and Sitges are often know and the most important (and fun!) ones in the country.</p> <p>Carnival is a tradition with strong roots in Spain that will help you bring closer to your students the way Spanish people party and the way they link tradition to fun. Use Carnival as the leitmotiv in one or more sessions to help your students learn vocabulary related to clothing.</p>



Development/Description of the activity

Activity 1: Show a video about Carnival in Spain; this is an example you can use, but you'll find many on the internet: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aJTBceLZMtU&ab_channel=GranCanariaTv.com

If you are carrying out a blended activity, they can watch the video at home and answer some open/reflection questions. If you watch it together in class, ask them to describe what they have seen in the video and tell the others if there is a similar celebration in their countries. You can ask questions like "What did you like the most?", "Do you think Carnival is for all ages?", "Would you like to participate in this festivity?"...

Activity 2: Introduce the vocabulary and main concept to students: introduce them to terms like carroza, disfraz, mascara, cabalgata, plumas, desfile, concurso, baile... Then ask them to make a sentence with some of the new words.


Activity 3: Introduce them to vocabulary related to clothes. And then ask them to describe what they are wearing. Show them the structure to say it correctly in Spanish "Llevo (puesto)...."

Blended format: If your students are taking part in the activity in a blended format, you can share with them some online activities related to clothing vocabulary (like a quiz or a drag and drop exercise) You can also ask them to take a picture of them and describe what they are wearing at that moment.

Activity 4: Now it's time to read about the origins of Carnival.

Face-to-face format: Find a short description of the Carnival (Here is a good power point presentation as an example: <https://www.tes.com/teaching-resource/spanish-festival-carnaval-de-cadiz-6187024>) You can prepare your own explanation of the Carnival depending on the level of your students. It is a good idea to prepare a text and print it out, with some questions to check their understanding, so that students practice their reading skills.

Blended format: If your students have some self-study time at home, you can share with them this short reading activity and then ask them to write a description with their own words of how they imagine carnival.

	<p>Final activity: You can ask students to create their own design of a costume and prepare a presentation to other students. It can be a drawing or using some digital support. In their presentation they should describe why they chose this costume, why they suggest this particular design and other information like: is it an individual costume? Can you adapt it to be a group costume? Do you think you could add a choreography to it?</p> <p>If you are to organize this activity online, you can create a shared board using applications like https://miro.com/ or Jamboard and ask them to share their presentations there, while presenting them to the other students.</p>
Link to original source if any	https://www.fluentu.com/blog/educator-spanish/spanish-culture-lesson-plans/
Do you need to link any files?	 <p>Photo by Ugur Arpaci on Unsplash</p>





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