

Group Activity: Comparing Famous Holiday Destinations (A1-CEFR)

This activity is designed for primary school students (A1-CEFR) to compare and contrast different famous holiday destinations around the world. It's a fun and engaging way to develop their critical thinking, communication, and geographical knowledge.

Materials:

- Large world map (or individual student maps)
- Pictures/descriptions of different famous holiday destinations (e.g., beach destination, city destination, mountain destination)
- Chart paper or worksheet with categories for comparison (e.g., weather, activities, landmarks)
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils

Instructions:

1. Introduction (5 minutes):

- Briefly discuss the concept of holidays and different types of holiday destinations (beach, city, mountains etc.).
- Show the world map and point out some famous landmarks/countries.

2. Destination Exploration (10 minutes):

- Divide students into small groups.
- Distribute pictures/descriptions of different famous holiday destinations (ensure a mix of destinations) to each group.
- Ask students to spend a few minutes examining their assigned destination. Encourage them to discuss what they see in the picture/description (e.g., beach, mountains, buildings).

3. Group Comparison (15 minutes):

- Provide each group with chart paper or a worksheet with categories for comparison, such as:
 - Weather (hot, cold, rainy)
 - Activities (swimming, sightseeing, skiing)
 - Landmarks (e.g., Eiffel Tower, Great Wall of China)
- Instruct students to discuss and fill out the chart, comparing their assigned destination with other destinations they know or have seen in the pictures.
- Encourage them to use simple phrases to compare, such as:
 - "Here, the weather is..."
 - "You can go..." (activities)
 - "There is a..." (landmarks)

4. Class Presentation (10 minutes):

- Ask each group to present their findings to the class.
- Groups can take turns presenting the information on their chart, highlighting what makes their destination special and how it compares to others.
- Encourage other students to ask questions using simple phrases like "Is it hot or cold there?" or "What can you do there?"

5. Wrap-up (5 minutes):

- After all presentations, have a class discussion about the different destinations.
- Ask students:
 - Which destination would you like to visit most and why?
 - What are some similarities and differences between the destinations we saw today?

Differentiation:

- For lower A1 students, provide more scaffolding during the exploration and comparison stages. Help them identify key details in the pictures/descriptions and provide sentence starters for their comparisons.
- For higher A1 or CEFR A2 students, encourage them to use more descriptive language in their presentations and comparisons. They can talk about things they like to do on holiday and why a particular destination might be a good fit for them.

Additional Tips:

- You can find pictures or descriptions of famous destinations online or in travel brochures.
- If you have access to technology, you can use a projector to show pictures of the destinations on the screen during the presentations.
- Consider incorporating a voting element at the end. Students can vote for the destination they would most like to visit.