

Match the Headlines

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| THEME: | ANY | |
| LANGUAGE: | ANY (GERMAN) | |
| STANDARD(S): | COMMUNICATION 1.2 | COMPARISONS 4.1 |

Time Frame:

15 – 20 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Short articles from newspapers or magazines with headlines removed (samples in German provided; the subject matter, length, and level of difficulty should be appropriate to the age, proficiency level, and interests of the students)
- Headlines from articles printed on another piece of paper (samples in German provided)

Description of Task:

Pre-reading task:

Each student is given copies of approximately 5 short newspaper articles on one page with the headlines removed. Students are asked to skim the newspaper articles and predict possible headlines for the articles, thereby identifying the themes. They should jot down the strategies they use to make their predictions (e.g., use of cognates).

During reading task:

The students are given a handout with the 5 headlines and, in pairs, they are asked to match the headlines with the corresponding articles. The students are to underline all words and phrases in the articles that have helped them to complete this matching task.

Level:

Novice-High to Intermediate-Low

Purpose:

To skim for gist and key concepts

Communicative Function(s):

Referential: skimming text for gist

Language Structure(s):

Cognates; other structures being studied can be emphasized depending upon articles selected

Cultural Aspects:

Articles that focus on a particular theme could be used for this activity

Modalities:

Reading

Post-reading task:

After the matching task is completed, two pairs of students join together to form small groups to discuss (in English) their work, compare their answers (both the predictions and the matching), and reflect on the strategies they used to complete the predicting and matching tasks. Finally, the small groups share (in English) their strategies with the whole class. The teacher shows a transparency containing the accurate matches, and students discuss their answers.

Assessment:

The during-reading matching activity acts as an assessment of comprehension. The teacher should pay close attention to the issues that arise during the small group and large class discussion of strategies. This will help the teacher to assess reading processes; what are students focusing on as they attempt to complete the task?

Extensions:

Suggestions for adapting the task for various levels:

For beginning levels:

- Very short and simple articles along with headlines shown on the bottom half of the handout can be used.
- Topics of the articles can differ significantly to facilitate the matching activity.

For advanced levels:

- Students can be given longer articles that focus on more difficult themes or controversial issues.
- Articles that are similar in content can be selected, making the matching activity more complex.
- Students can be asked to write a couple of questions in the target language about some of the articles.
- Students can be given the articles and be asked to write the headlines; alternatively, students can be given the headlines and some key

vocabulary and structures and then be asked to create a short newspaper article to fit the headline.

Other extensions:

As a class, students can make posters of the five most commonly used skimming or reading comprehension strategies and display in the classroom. The poster can be created in English or the target language.

Cultural extensions:

- Students can be asked to locate on a map the cities that are mentioned in the articles.
- The class can discuss what the articles communicate about cultural attitudes with respect to the particular theme or topic chosen. They can compare and contrast target and native cultural attitudes as reflected in newspaper articles about the same topic.

References and Resources:

Examples are taken from *Bild*, 4 Juli, 1988 and *Steeler Kurier*, 23 Juni, 1988.

Reflections:

Am Samstag (25. Juni) gibt es eine prima Alternative für alle, die genug vom Fußball haben. Zum wiederholten Male findet das Stadtteilfest im Bergmannsfeld-Erasmusstraße statt. Traditionell wird das Fest um 14 Uhr durch einen Fanfarenzug eröffnet. Danach beginnt ein abwechslungsreiches Programm für jung und alt. Für Kinder gibt es Kasperletheater, Bubbelplast, Zauberer, Straßentheater, Clown und noch einige Überraschungen mehr. Eine Rockband versucht, das junge Publikum auf Trab zu bringen. Bei einem Startgeld von DM 5,- sind alle Skatfreunde zum Turnier ins Spielhaus eingeladen. Auf besonderen Wunsch tritt auch beim diesjährigen Fest eine Bauchtänzerin auf. Der Flohmarkt ist, wie in jedem Jahr, den umliegenden Bewohnern vorbehalten.

Kairo - Eine Frau in Ägypten stellte ihren Mann zur Rede: Er trinke zuviel Wein - er solle sich entweder mäßigen oder ausziehen. Er wolle lieber ausziehen, sagte der Mann. Da nahm die Frau eine Eisenstange und schlug ihren Mann tot (die Täterin ist 65, das Opfer 75. Beide waren 45 Jahre verheiratet).

Hamburg - Ein Mann überfiel eine Tankstelle in Lagerdorf (Schleswig-Holstein) raubte 1000 Mark und fuhr davon. Polizei errichtete eine Straßensperre - doch schleudern fuhr der Mann an ihr vorbei. Streifenwagen verfolgten ihn - doch der Täter war schneller. Wagen des flüchtigen Täters: ein 10 Jahre alter Ford-Capri.

Den Ergrauungsprozeß im Haar, der durch eine Unterversorgung mit dem natürlichen Farbpigment Melanin entsteht, kann man jetzt praktisch „umkehren“. Mit GRECIAN 2000®, einer Lotion, welche im grauen Haar wieder Farbpigmente bildet und so eine junge, natürlich aussehende Haarfarbe zurückgibt. Ganz allmählich und unauffällig. Für jede Haarfarbe sowie Herren und Damen geeignet. In Apotheken und Drogerien (DM 18,95 unverbindliche Preisempfehlung). CCM Ltd., 7570 Baden-Baden, Telefon 07221-63621.

Bonn - 140 Menschen stürzten letztes Jahr aus fahrenden Zügen der Bundesbahn. 40 von ihnen starben. Heute hat immer noch jeder dritte Wagen keine automatische Tür-Blockierung (sie verhindert das Öffnen während der Fahrt). Verkehrsminister Warnke (CSU): „Bis 1990 werden alle Züge für 35 Millionen Mark umgerüstet“.

Bahn: 40 Tote Jetzt Neue Türen

Stadtteilstadt im Bergmannsfeld

Nach 45 Ehejahren erschlug sie ihn

Graue Haare weg - ohne zu färben!

Im Oldie der Polizei entwischt

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