

PART 1: LESSON PLAN – 30 MINUTES (For the teacher) - Level Int.

TOPIC: “Why is saving a library important?” Citizenship education on the preservation of literary works

OBJECTIVE: To promote critical reflection on the importance of art and its preservation, even in situations that may seem more urgent. 1. Emergency choice

1. Write on the board:

- “A landslide is about to hit a city. Not everything can be saved.”
- **Private house / Hospital / Library / Bridge / Cinema / Airport / Bank / Post office / Theatre / Church**

Students rank these places in order of priority. First individually, then compare in pairs and with the whole class. For each choice, write the votes on the board to see the final result. Help students with the following guiding questions: *What did you base your choices on? Which building did you put last and why? Would your choice change if the city had to be rebuilt from scratch?*

2. Text - Saving people, saving memory

Do not hand out the text immediately. Give the following instruction: “*Listen and write a summary sentence,*” then read the text aloud.

Distribute the text. Students read it and add other key elements, writing a summary of about 50 words.

3. Taking a position

Students choose a sentence from the text and copy it onto a post-it note. They add their own interpretation (about 3 lines: **I agree / I disagree**). Students stick the post-its on the classroom wall. They move in groups of three, read, and discuss. After one minute, they move on and comment on another post-it. A whole-class discussion follows.

4. The library speaks

Students individually write 8 - 10 lines starting with: “*I am the library of this city and I do not want to be forgotten because...*”

You can help them with these prompts: **usefulness for the community, importance of books for the future of society, what is lost without a library, what kind of people are shaped by reading.** They form groups of three, read, and comment on their texts. A whole-class discussion follows.

5. Speak for one minute

Students stand up and form two lines facing each other. Each student is paired with a partner. Ask a question below: students answer for one minute, then one line moves to the right, forming new pairs. Ask another question, and so on for about 10 minutes. A final discussion follows.

PART 2: WORKSHEET (For students)

2. Text – Saving people, saving memory

Saving people is always the top priority. Without safety and life, no society can exist. But a city is not made only of buildings necessary for survival: it is also made of stories, languages, ideas, and imagination.

A library is a public space where a community preserves its memory and builds its future. In books live critical thinking, doubt, and the ability to understand the world without accepting it passively.

After a natural disaster, such as a landslide hitting a city, for example Niscemi in Sicily, culture is not a luxury: it is a tool to rebuild connections, give meaning to what has happened, and imagine the future.

A society without cultural spaces may survive, but it risks losing its voice. Saving a library does not mean choosing books over people, but recognizing that a community needs both material safety and cultural nourishment.

5. Speak for one minute – Sample questions

1. Can a society do without art?
2. What would happen if no one taught art and music at school anymore? What kind of students would we become?
3. If you had to convince a friend that reading is important, what would you say in one minute?
4. “Art will save the world” (a quote often attributed to Fyodor Dostoevsky): do you agree? Why?
5. What kind of citizens are formed without books and culture?
6. Imagine you are the mayor of your city: which cultural place would you build or save for young people?
7. Which cultural places in your city are essential?
8. What is a society without culture like?
9. If we could save only one thing from our culture for the future, what would you choose and why?
10. Why is art important in people’s daily lives?
11. How do books help us understand the world?
12. Have you ever read a book that taught you something?
13. What would we lose if we did not preserve our culture?
14. What is the role of museums and libraries in society?
15. Can culture make a society more united? Why?