

Autobiography of Intercultural Encounters



Module 6

Activity 1: Using the AIE in different contexts – context cards

Example A

A youth choir is singing in a series of concerts in another country. The visit involves four nights homestay for the choir, with two choir members staying in each host family.

The choir leaders used the AIE with the young people after their visit as part of their reflection on the experience.

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1

Example B

Two schools have established a school partnership with each other. One school is located in a rural area where the population is fairly well-to-do and largely mono-cultural. The other school is in a multi-cultural urban district with high levels of deprivation. Groups of pupils from the schools meet up with each other three times a year to share in different activities together.

The teachers use AIE questions after each activity day to help pupils establish common ground in youth collaboration.

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Example C

A company does a lot of international business involving business trips to other countries and meetings with international partners.

The AIE is included in a team coaching programme for employees of the company.

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Example D

Trainee teachers of religious education are about to start a new module on 'Teaching about World Faiths'.

They are asked to complete the AIE before the first session of the module.

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Example E

At a university, international and non-international students live in the same university residences. The residences committee organises periodic meetings for these students, some of which are social events and some of which deal with various issues related to university life.

One such meeting is used to discuss living together when habits and customs are often so different. Before the meeting the students are asked to complete an AIE.

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Example F

An extremist right-wing group has been distributing anti-immigration and anti-Muslim literature in the neighbourhood.

Teachers in a local school decide to use the AIE with their classes.

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Activity 1: Using the AIE in different contexts – context cards continued

Example G

Two language classes in different countries are doing an online intercultural exchange with each other.

The teachers in both classes ask their learners to fill out the AIE and share the intercultural encounter they write about with their online tandem partners in the other country.

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7

Example H

Pupils at a school in a deprived area of a large city with high youth unemployment are undertaking a 'Prepare for Work' training programme. This involves two weeks work experience in various businesses in the city.

After the work experience the pupils are asked to fill out an AIE using an encounter they had during those two weeks.

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Example I

A big league football match is coming up and large numbers of fans from another country are expected in town to support their team. There has been a history of racism and violence among football fans in the town.

A local youth club decides to use questions from the AIE with its members before the match takes place.

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Example J

Young people in a school community service project are helping elderly people in the neighbourhood one afternoon a week for three months.

After one month the teacher organising the project asks the young people to complete an AIE.

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Example K

At a secondary school, pupils are asked to complete an AIE immediately after the summer holidays. They do this three times while they are at the school: at the beginning of their first year (Younger Learners' Version), at the beginning of their third year (Standard Version) and at the beginning of their fifth year (Standard Version).

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11