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BREAKING DOWN BARRIERS

2011 Activities

Goal –
Setting and
Resolutions

Cultural
Awareness

Aussie Youth
Culture

Cook-book

Food tasting
and lunch

"My heart sang"



My Interview Experience

My first impression when I saw them was that they marched in like a troop. My heart sang. I wondered that moment what kind of interview it was going to be. Which one of them would choose me and can I answer all the questions.

They all look good-natured and smart. I was hoping one of the girls could interview me, but guess what? It was a guy. However, I was pleased to be interviewed by one of them. My heart beat fast and my nervousness disappeared because standing in front of me was such a good looking young man with a lovely smile which made me feel relaxed. I was very honoured to be interviewed by him.

By Saharah

“Why I will never have a daughter!”



I interviewed two young female VCAL students. They were both very bubbly and had very different News Year's resolutions. We all seemed semi -comfortable with the interview process and laughed at each other with certain answers. I was quite taken aback when one of the girls told me her resolution was to “focus less on guys.....”. The answer was a reminder to me of why I will never have a daughter.

One of the girls, Tash , is studying VCAL in the hope of achieving her future goal of entering the police force .On the other hand ,Annaliiese dreams of becoming a singer after completion of her studies at Swinburne.

By Claudio



My Interview Experience

This morning the VCAL students came to our class to do a survey called *New Year's Resolutions and Goal Setting*. A young girl with a warm and smiling face came to me and we introduced ourselves, then we started the survey. The girl who is called Amy is a nice and confident student. We had a good talk and laugh and we were satisfied with the survey.

By Man

Natural Matches



“Little punks with attitude”



My Interview Experience

Today in class I did a small survey as well as being interviewed by a kid named Mitchell.

My first thought was I couldn't really be bothered to do such a task, but got off my high horse & obviously went through with it.

My first impressions of the other class were that I saw them as a bunch of little punks with attitude (I think bitterness comes with old age). Then the kids all separated to be paired with our class, a bit hesitant to hurry in - but I would have reacted the same way.

One of the kids then came over to me & asked if I would do a survey & answer some question; I replied with 'yeah that's fine'. He then introduced himself & read out what he was reading & thus the questions begun.

By Naomi



The Interview was about a student named Zack who made an impression on me. He has had a tough time in his life, despite his troubles. He wants to lose weight just like me!! He wants to complete year 12(VCAL). He is interested in martial arts. I thought to myself that he can do anything he sets out to do.

By Lynette



Interview experience

I had a total new experience of interviewing and being interviewed with a young girl who is a VCAL student of Swinburne today.

When a group of young people popped in I was wondering that how I could communicate with one of them and completed my task successfully. I assumed that they are native English speakers and fast thinking young people and they really are. Comparing to my speaking, I felt that I did not have any confidence. There was not a spare chair beside me and I did not face them so no one came to me. Then I joined in Amanda and Isabelle's interview.

Isabelle, she is a lovely outgoing tall girl with light brown short hair. Her fast speaking and friendly attitude encouraged me response quickly to questions she asked.

This interview provides me an opportunity to get to know more about young Aussies. For example, the girl who we interviewed has no any resolution but the goal which is 'Finish school and get a better job.' It partially reflects Australian lifestyle that is more relaxing than some other countries' today. Isabelle said: "Keep on going, don't give up when things get tough." It echoes in my mind and seems encouraging me to get my resolutions done one by one in order to achieve my lifelong goal.

The important thing I learnt from the interview is that I can learn some useful methods from others whoever they are.

By Mei



“You Feel Younger Too”



New Year's Resolutions & Goal Setting Survey

Response about the experience of being interviewed and interviewing the VCAL student.

They filled in our classroom in a very quick way and were so many – all young, smiling and nice to look at! Together with their lovely teacher, Marina – all like a youth fresh stream full of life and “New Year’s Resolutions”.

They left very good impression: when you see and speak with young people you feel younger too. They have all their life ahead together with their resolutions and goals and happy to choose and follow them.

By Marina Rowan

More matches





Sonia, Lindy and Joel



Cultural Awareness Presentations

- A Sample

Italy



- I was born in Australia but my parents are Italian.
- Each region of Italy has a different dialect meaning certain words are not used in certain regions or the same words can be pronounced differently. For example where my parents come from if we are to say “Now”, we say “Mo”, but the correct way to say it is “Adesso”.
- For a female her name will end in an “A” for example Maria, Louisa, and Rita.
- For a male his name will end with an “O” for example Mario, Roberto, and Claudio



- The most common aspects of Italy are its food and history.

(Claudio)

Aussie Youth Culture



Bad Habits



Hi Marina!

How are you? I am Vicki's student, Man Tang.
Thanks for kindly inviting us to your class presentation which I have learnt a lot about the youth culture.
Your students honestly told us about their thought, manner and hobbies that helped us to narrow down the gap between two generations. It is really useful to me on communicating and working with my daughter.
Once again, with deeply appreciating to you all!
Best wishes to everyone.


Man Tang

Youth Language



...The students in that class showed us the language they use, the way they socialise and what they like or don't like. They use their own language such as "sup" which means "what's up", "ridunculous" which means "ridiculous" or "gday" instead of "good day" and a lot more. Different friend groups have some different self made up words. They sometimes include swear words in their conversations not because they really mean it but that's what they do.


Jessica



...They see themselves as “honest” and “loyal”. Being honest as if they don’t like what you wear or what you are they would tell you straight away without too many concerns. Being loyal as they would not betray their friends or family which are the positive values they have.

They told us their fashion taste which is mainly based on the brands as: Tommy Hilfiger, Lactose and Nike etc. They see tattoos and body piercing as a cool sign.

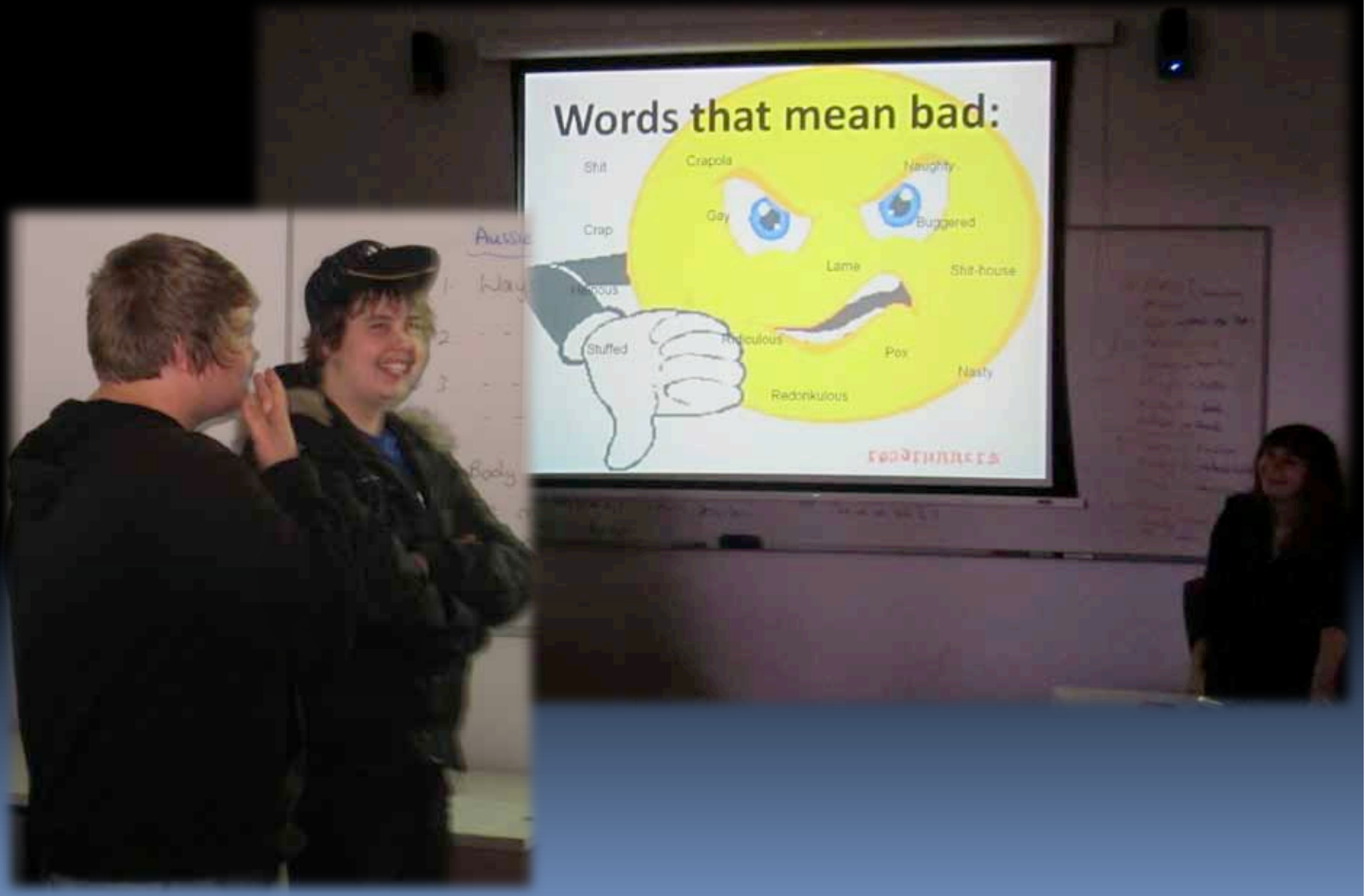
While they were using PowerPoints to show us the youth culture, the way they communicated also showed the difference between the youth and the adults.



It was really nice to spend the time with the VCAL class and talk about the youth culture, hope there will be a next time.

Jessica

“Bad” words



“Eye and heart opening time”



Dear Marina

I would like to record my appreciation and thanks to you and your students for the opportunity to view their presentation and to ‘interview’ them. It was an eye-opener for me.

I was touched by the many cards – all of which were so well done – I received from your class for the presentation we gave them earlier. It was really nice to know they appreciated my presentation and that they felt they had learnt something from it.

For my part, I must say the experience has shattered many misgivings I had about the ‘new generation’.

While they are certainly different from myself and my peers when we were their age, deep down they have the same values of respect, belief and ambition – though they may not show it.

I learnt a lot about them by the language they speak – it’s their protective armour when dealing with a skeptical older generation, I guess.

But I also want to share with you another observation, Marina, and that is the way in which you relate to your students.

The communication you have with them which, I guess, stems from your understanding of them, is a gift I wish I had when my children were growing up. It is obvious they relate to you and you to them, which is why they are so open and transparent – though, perhaps, their parents might not think so.

Maybe it is a little too late for me with my own children – they’re in their 30s now and live in their own world – but perhaps I can make up for it with my grand children.

Thank you once again for a wonderful, eye and heart opening time.

Sahara

Who's got the best tattoos?

