

Discussing common values & basic concepts

Objectives:

- to create a relaxing atmosphere
- to boost students' confidence and motivation to participate
- to stimulate ideas exchange and reflection on basic concepts such as citizenship

Note for teacher: act as a mediator/facilitator to make your students feel comfortable in intervening and making mistakes.

Step 1. Brainstorming

10 min

Brainstorming session: "What is a good citizen?"

Group discussion:

- What are the main similarities/differences in the answers?
- How can we define a good citizen?
- Are rules important? What would happen without them at home or school?

Step 2. Drawing

10 min

Ask students to draw their image of a European citizen.

Group discussion:

- Why do you think of a European citizen in this way?
- What are the typical elements of a European citizen?
- What is your role in the community when you think of your relations with family/friends/neighbourhood?

Step 3. In pairs

15 min

In pairs: How is EU present in your daily life?

Group discussion:

- What does it imply to be part of the EU?
- What is its impact on your life (including at school, country, neighbourhood)?
- What are your rights and duties as EU citizen?
- How can you contribute to your community?

Step 4. In pairs

15 minutes

In pairs: What is a multicultural society?

Group discussion:

- Do you have friends from different countries, religious or ethnic groups?
- Do you use other languages beyond your mother tongue?
- How do you communicate with people speaking another language?

Step 5. In two groups

15 minutes

Divide the class in **two groups** and ask them to create a story starting by:

1st Group: there was a boy named Marco, he...

2nd Group: there was a boy named Ibrahim, he...

Once both groups have presented their story to the whole group, discuss:

- Are you interested in other cultures?
- How can you learn more about other cultures and backgrounds?

Step 6. Role play

30 minutes

Divide students in *reporters and citizens*.

Reporters: walk among the citizens and ask them some quick questions about various topics. At the end they make a brief summary of the answers collected.

Questions asked by reporters may include:

- Can you tell me something about the EU?
- What do you think of...[a people]?
- Do you speak foreign language(s)?
- Would you like to learn a new language?
- Which countries are part of the EU?
- Where would you like to go in EU? Why?
- Do you have friends from different cultural backgrounds?
- What is culture/value/community?