Christina Popowski
French Teacher

cpopowski@sas.edu.sg
Singapore American School

Worthwhile Internet Activities and Links for the Study of

French
Spanish
Mandarin
Japanese

Useful websites for Teachers of Language

http://trackstar.4teachers.org
TrackStar is website that allows teachers to create online lessons and activities. Simply collect Web sites, enter them into TrackStar, add annotations for your students, and you have an interactive, online lesson called a Track. Create your own Track or use one of over 5,000 tracks already made by other foreign language educators. Search the database by subject, grade, or theme and standard for a quick and easy activity.

http://clta.net/lessons
A good variety of internet-based lesson plans already created for foreign language classes, (mainly for Spanish and French), by participants in the Technology Workshops of the California Foreign Language Project and the California Language Teachers Association. These sites are designed to be used as worksheets for the students to complete while accessing the corresponding reference web sites online. Teachers may print out the sheets, copy them, and distribute them to the students. There is also a list of other useful sites and tips on how to write your own web-based activities.

http://www.acenz.ac.nz/display_page.asp?menu=1&item=64 – The Association of Colleges of Education in NZ has a wealth of useful links for teachers and students of Spanish, French, Mandarin and Japanese. Too many good things to list so visit for yourself and click on your language!

www.puzzlemaker.com
Puzzlemaker is a FREE puzzle generation tool for teachers, students and parents. Create and print customized word search and crossword puzzles using your own word lists. Applicable to French and Spanish teachers only.

http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages
Lots of interactive activities and interesting articles and tips for Spanish and French. Also some Japanese and Mandarin.

www.realia.project.org
Good site for teaching culture. Photos available to help teachers to teach culture. Available for French, Spanish and Japanese. Mandarin will be added over the next 3 years.

www.americangirl.com/agmg/school_smarts/cgi/flash.cgi
Allows students to create their own online flashcards. This site saves only one set of flashcards online however one is able to print out the flashcards created online. Unfortunately this site does not appear to work for Mandarin and Japanese.

Sites I use to teach French

Specifically for teachers:
www. casadejoanna.com - a very comprehensive site for teachers of French. It contains French language websites to explore including thematically organized authentic links; links to French language search engines and portals/web guides; rich art links in English and French; web-based activities and resources on technology implementation and access to professional organizations and journals, software information and consulting services.

http://www.evene.fr – sends a "quote a day" to the subscriber. Lots of other information on this site concerning print material in France.

http://www.ph-ludwigsburg.de/html/2b-frnz-s-01/overmann/baf4 - ready to use lesson plans for teachers
http://www.umit.maine.edu/class/teachlinks/mlclinks/frenchlinks.html - useful links for French teachers
http://www.utm.edu/departments/french/french.html - Tennessee Bob's Famous French links

www.paroles.net – song texts of many French songs both old and contemporary

www.carolefredericks.net – an American singer who immigrated to France to pursue her career in music. My students enjoy learning about this woman's extraordinary journey to France and listening to her music.

http://espacefrancophone.org/home_en.html - download free videos in French

http://www.lesclesjunior.com/index.htm
http://www.momes.net
Two children's sites for French speakers. Good for current events or cultural activities.

Sites for students to work independently on grammar:

http://conjuguemos.com/home/index.html - to log into this you will need to apply for a school ID #. This ID# is needed to access the activities but as a teacher you create your own password, as do your students if/when they log on. Students can e-mail you the results of whatever they practice on this site.
http://www.colby.edu/personal/a/ajlevine/grammar/a_grammarindex.html
http://www.azurlingua.com/ados/nouveau.
http://www.educaserve.com/list_cours.php3?log=demo&passe=demo

Two sites for students to read several episodes of a story online and then perform interactivities based on the texts:

http://www.ur.se/ur/sok/frameset_web.html?/lavaliserouge/index.html - suitable for beginner and intermediate levels
http://www.ur.se/ur/sok/frameset_web.html?/chloe/index.html - suitable for intermediate to advanced levels

Sites for Spanish

Have a look at SAS Spanish teacher Pilar Fernandez's website. It is a wealth of activities and useful links for teachers and students alike:

http://mseagle.sas.edu.sg/pfernandez/grammar-practice.htm

www.josefeliciano.com – website of a blind Puerto Rican artist who has been dubbed the "greatest living guitarist". There is also a video in Spanish about his life that has proven popular with adolescents.

www. casadejoanna.com - a very comprehensive site for teachers of Spanish.
It contains Spanish language websites to explore including thematically organized authentic links; links to Spanish language search engines and portals/web guides; rich art links in English and Spanish; web-based activities and resources on technology implementation and access to professional organizations and journals, software information and consulting services.

http://listserv.buffalo.edu/cgi-bin/wa?A2=ind9908&L=FLTEACH&P=R1888&I=-3 - A Link to Suggestions for Teaching Don Quijote to more advanced students of Spanish

Sites for students of Spanish to work independently on grammar:

http://conjuguemos.com/home/index.html - to log into this you will need to apply for a school ID #. This ID# is needed to access the activities but as a teacher you create your own password, as do your students if/when they log on. Students can e-mail you the results of whatever they practice on this site.

http://www.trentu.ca/spanish/masarriba/sitemap.htm

http://colby.edu/~bknelson/excercises/index.html

http://www.studyspanish.com

http://www.hellonavi.com/foldera/index.html - a Japanese website but for learners of Spanish. To view the animations which depict various everyday situations click on "Spanish" on the home page. The text can be read and heard in Spanish by clicking on the ? button above the pictures. Students click on the menu, (all in Japanese!), on the left-hand side of the screen to view/listen to the various everyday situations.

Sites for Mandarin:

http://clta.osu.edu/CLTAlinks/links.htm – the Chinese Teachers Association (uses Ohio State University's server). This page on their website contains extensive links to Chinese-related topics.

http://www.clta-gny.org – the Chinese Language Teachers Association of Greater New York state. This site lists of wealth of resources for teachers including a very extensive list of internet resources for teaching and learning Chinese.

Recommended sites by SAS Mandarin teacher Wenhong Zhu:

http://www.mandarintools.com/

www.betterchinese.cn

www.zhongwen.com

http://www.landoflinks.com/languages/chinese.html

http://www.dltk-holidays.com/china/index.htm

www.sunvv.com This site is in Chinese. I usually go to the link to flash to find flash for the songs that I share with the class.

Have a look at SAS MS Mandarin teacher Rose Phan's web site for ideas:

http://mseagle.sas.edu.sg/rphan

Sites for Japanese

http://www.sabotenweb.com/bookmarks/teachers.html - website of the Association of Teachers of Japanese which is an international, non-profit, non-political organization of scholars, teachers, and students of Japanese language, literature, and linguistics. This site has a wealth of information to share among teachers and other professionals to help broaden and deepen knowledge and appreciation of Japan and its culture.

http://www.usc.edu/dept/LAS/ealc/jlp/fun/fun.html - interactive activities from the Japanese Language Programme at the University of Southern California. The activities are designed for learning Japanese and learning about Japanese culture, and include vocabulary activities relating to the calendar and the seasons, as well as riddles, 'Proverb of the Day', and a photo gallery depicting aspects of Japanese life.

http://www.japanese.ac.nz/- The NZ Association of Japanese Language Teacher's website is an extensive site for both students and teachers of Japanese. For students there are photo essays to read, dictionaries, interactive activities for language, culture and history. This association also has a teacher only website, (www.japanese.ac.nz/teachers), which costs NZ $35 per year to access but the site contains a large variety of materials and teaching resources for teachers of Japanese.

http://www.tjf.or.jp/eng/de/deindex.htm - this page introduces the life of Japanese children by featuring a typical day in the life of Kentaro, an elementary school boy. There are 18 photos showing Kentaro's daily life and introduce related aspects of culture. You can freely use the photographs in this website without charge as long as they are used for non-profit educational purposes. (You can download them, copy them, clip a part of it, modify them, etc.)

http://www.hellonavi.com/foldera/index.html - To view the animations, click on English from the home page, and ensure that Japanese encoding is selected from the View menu (Encoding or Character Coding). The animations reflect everyday situations, and the text can be read and heard in English or Japanese by clicking on the ? button above the pictures.

http://momiji.jpf.go.jp/kyozai/index.php - Explore the resources from this web-community for Japanese language teachers. The material is largely in Japanese script and includes examples of uses at secondary level.

www.ucalgary.ca/~xyang/about-w.htm - a free authoring program used to teach Japanese if you feel up to this challenge!