

Topic 1 : Aspects of French-speaking society – Current trends

Unit 1 : La famille en voie de changement

| I can... | R | A | G |
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| a. I am aware of alternatives to marriage that might include couples living together either permanently or as a means of testing their relationship (consideration of couples other than heterosexual and thus the status of the PACs and marriage for gay and lesbian couples). I would be able to back this up with contrasting ideas from countries and cultures other than mainland France | | | |
| b. I am aware of recent trends in the divorce rate in France, some awareness of how France compares with other European countries, factors which account for the increased divorce rates including greater tolerance, decreased influence of religion, divorce easier than in the past, changing role of women in society, greater tolerance towards other than conventional family models | | | |
| c. I am aware of the increase in numbers of same-sex partnerships; influence of the PACs and/or same sex marriages on this increase; attitudes towards same-sex partnerships; views and opinions about same sex parenting and some judgement about its effects on children; possibly some direct knowledge of particular case studies; some knowledge of the social trend in France or elsewhere in the French speaking world | | | |
| d. I am knowledgeable about young people's opinions about marriage; opinions explained by ethnicity and religious beliefs; opinions explained by young people's experiences (positive or negative) of their parents' marriage; young people's opinions about marriage in communities outside mainland France; knowledge of alternative partnerships and opinions about these | | | |
| e. I can describe the main causes of conflicts between different generations | | | |
| f. I can provide justified personal reaction to the opinions given on marriage e.g does marriage give greater security to children and greater stability to the couple; what might be the disadvantages of marriage; what factors other than the pressures of work and career might lead to divorce or separation | | | |
| g. I can provide a justified personal reaction to the reasons why young people would choose to live with family | | | |
| h. I can provide some exemplification of the sort of tensions and problems created - questioning the authority of a 'new' parent or tensions because of sibling rivalry and jealousies | | | |
| i. I have some awareness of the average age for couples to get married in France as well as an awareness of how marriage is becoming less popular; some understanding as to why the pressure of work for women is a particular factor in leading to divorce or separation; some discussion of an ideal age at which to get married with justification for this | | | |

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| j. | I have some knowledge of less tolerant attitudes in the French speaking world and factors accounting for this; religious or faith-based factors | | | |
| k. | I can give reasons why people choose to live as a couple; an appreciation of the consequences of such a situation (benefits and drawbacks); factors which account for the different types of couples (marriage/PACs...); reasons for being/staying single and advantages and disadvantages of such a situation; some awareness of the main causes for shorter relationships | | | |
| l. | I understand the changing nature of family (impact on marriage and relationships; single parent families; generation gap and comparison/contrast between life experiences) | | | |
| m. | I understand the role that grandparents play in family life; some awareness of the status of grandparents in target language countries; factors which account for the need for grandparents to play a part in their grandchildren's lives; an appreciation of the grandparents viewpoint; an explanation for the reasons why grandparents are able to play an active part in the family | | | |
| n. | I can outline the decline of traditional family unit and reasons for that; changes in the way couples cohabit rather than marry; changing nature of couples and of conventional parenting; reference to aspects of this sub theme as outlined in the specification such as monoparentalite and homoparentalite; how these trends differ or are similar in communities outside mainland France | | | |
| o. | I have some knowledge of adoption laws and selection criteria for adoptive parents; some judgement as to whether this is good or bad; some awareness and evaluation of possible impact on the well-being of the child | | | |