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## **DRAMA BASED ON LEARNING BY EXPERIENCE**

### **BULGARIAN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE LESSON**

The students are given the task of presenting an excerpt from the tragedy “Antigone” by Sophocles, transforming themselves into the characters. The idea of dramatizing a literary text is related to the view that the best way to learn is through experience. Going through the viewpoint of the characters as their own, the students acquire invaluable experience that expands their horizons. For this purpose, the dramatic and strenuous dialogue between Creon and Antigone is selected from the 2nd episode of Sophocles' Antigone. This play is included in Bulgarian Language and Literature curriculum for the 9th grade students.

The key competencies this lesson addresses in the context of drama based on learning by experience are communication in mother tongue and cultural awareness and expression. Dramatization enhances verbal and nonverbal expression of ideas. It improves articulation of words, fluency with language, and persuasive speech.

Other aims of using this drama technique are teamwork, empathy, and knowledge based on individual experience. Acting roles from different situations, time periods, and cultures promotes compassion and tolerance for others' feelings and viewpoints.

The reincarnation of the students in images of people from other cultural and historical epochs improves multicultural communication and stimulates both the development of communicative skills and tolerance towards others. By completing the task, the students change their point of view on the characters, the epoch and its problems. They learn to experience the literary text, not simply to read it.

The students come closer to the understanding that no matter how different we are (even thousands of years ago), we are all the same - in our dreams, in our hearts, in our desire to be happy and good people and our empathy has the power to change the world.