Holidays offer a fantastic opportunity for teaching languages. They offer opportunities to teach vocabulary, culture, traditions, and even food—all while having fun. They're also a great way to bring variety and excitement to your lessons. Below are a few activities you can try in your language classes.

Post-Holiday Vision Boards

Looking for a fun, engaging activity to beat the post-winter-break blues? Vision boards are a creative project that can be tailored perfectly for foreign language classes, particularly in French or Spanish.

How It Works

1. **What You Need**:
    - A board (poster board, large paper, or even an electronic platform).
    - Images or pictures (printouts, magazines, or digital).
    - Labels and markers (or sticky notes).
2. **The Concept**:
   Students select images that represent things they see in their future, such as:
    - **Health**: Goals or habits they want to achieve.
    - **Career**: Dream jobs or ambitions.
    - **Travel**: Places they'd like to visit.
    - **Hobbies**: Books to read, skills to learn, or languages to master.
3. **Steps**:
    - Have students pick 10–20 images that align with their chosen themes.
    - Glue or attach images to the board (physical or digital).
    - Label categories in the target language (e.g., "Places I'd like to visit," "Things I want to learn").
4. **Language Integration**:
    - Beginners: Write simple nouns, adjectives, or short sentences (e.g., "I like books," "I want to travel to Paris").
    - Intermediate: Use phrases like "I am going to…" or "I want to…" to practice the future tense.
    - Advanced: Use the subjunctive to express hopes or wishes (e.g., "I hope to visit Spain").
5. **Presentations**:
   Students present their vision boards, describing their choices and explaining their goals. This activity encourages speaking practice while reinforcing vocabulary and grammar.

Tips for Teachers

- Keep a stash of magazines or pre-cut images on hand to save time.
- Collect images throughout the year to build a reusable collection.
- Use images for other activities, like creating composite characters or family trees.

Valentine’s Day Language Activities

Valentine’s Day is another excellent occasion for a fun and engaging language lesson.

Compliments Activity

1. **What You’ll Need**:
    - Small slips of paper.
    - A bag or container.
2. **How It Works**:
    - Write the names of everyone in the class on the slips of paper.
    - Students draw a name and write a genuine compliment for that person in the target language.
    - In smaller groups, each student can write a compliment for everyone in the class.
3. **Why It Works**:
    - Encourages positivity and builds class camaraderie.
    - At advanced levels, it’s a great way to practice the subjunctive (e.g., “I admire that you are kind”).
4. **Follow-Up**:
    - Have students write cards or letters to someone in their life, incorporating vocabulary or grammar structures they’ve learned.

Simple Valentine Writing for Beginners

- Display target language phrases and vocabulary.
- Have students write short Valentines to classmates.
- Use puzzles or games to reinforce vocabulary beforehand.

5 Weeks of No and Low Prep Fun

Need quick, engaging activities for your class? This free guide includes **25 no-prep**

and low-prep ideas to save time while keeping students excited about learning. Download your free copy now.