

G-6 Alternative Oral Project.

I was fortunate enough to have several native German speakers in my area who were willing to help with this project. The idea is simple enough. I placed a bunch of clothes on the desks (I have a prop closet of second hand clothes. If you don't have this, ask your theater teacher). I printed up a bunch of price tags, which I will provide in separate attachments. The prices are extreme and don't deal with cents; just Euros. I passed out fake Euros that we got through one of the teacher supply companies.

The native German speakers played the part of the clerks and helped students with trying on various pieces of clothing. They commented on color, style, fit, anything. My students had only a few things to do:

- 1) They had to speak in German the entire time (lasted about 20 minutes) and they couldn't be "mute" and just hide in a corner and not say anything. They could talk to friends if the clerks were busy, but only in German. They loved this. No specifics required. Just speak in German.
- 2) They had to try on 5 items with the vendor and "purchase" two items.

My students really enjoyed this type of oral presentation much more than the "solo" presentation that we used to do. Basically if they kept speaking German and didn't use English or stay mute, they got full credit. The only thing that didn't work perfectly was the ridiculously high prices. Students had difficulties with numbers such as €243,—. Understandable. Overall this was a much better oral presentation because the amount of German spoken was much greater than my traditional oral, the oral was completely unrehearsed, it was somewhat real-world and very free-flowing. I highly recommend it.