Keeping it REAL!
Incorporating Culturally Authentic Materials and Activities into the Language Classroom

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Visit the companion website for the PowerPoint and links to the resources from this workshop!
http://www.miscositas.com/authenticmaterials.html

ACTFL Standards
1. Communication: Communicate in Languages Other Than English

2. Cultures: Gain Knowledge & Understanding of Other Culture
   2.1: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the practices and perspectives of the culture studied.
   2.2: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the products and perspectives of the culture studied.

3. Connections: Connect with Other Disciplines & Acquire New Information
4. Comparisons: Develop Insight into the Nature of Language & Culture
5. Communities: Participate in Multilingual Communities at Home and Around the World

What is realia? Objects from real life or from the real world, as opposed to theoretical constructs or fabricated examples; especially, such objects used as instructional or classroom aids. Materials that convey the everyday life of different cultures can be described as realia. These materials and objects are meant to be consumed by native speakers of the target language and/or culture.

What is fakealia? Teaching materials designed and developed by publishers and/or teachers that are made to look culturally authentic. These materials are created for students learning languages in a classroom setting and are not intended to be used by native or heritage speakers of the language.

Cultural materials that convey the 3 Ps (Products, practices, and perspectives)
- Folkart
- Utilitarian objects
- Games and toys
- Tickets, brochures, ads
- Photographs
- Popular music and song lyrics
- Music videos
- Quotes, proverbs, and sayings
- Memes
- Magazines and newspapers
- Videos and television
- Short films and movies
- Stories, folktales, and myths
- Children’s, tween, and teen literature
Online resources
(links available online at: http://www.miscositas.com/authenticmaterials.html)
✔️ Realia (Objects from real life of the target language/culture):
   o The REALIA (Rich Electronic Archive for Language Instruction Anywhere) Project: www.realiaproject.org
   o Searchable collection of realia sites on Delicious: http://www.delicious.com/miscositas/realia
   o Photos from the target culture using Google images: http://www.google.com/imghp
   o MisCositas cultural photo collection: http://www.flickr.com/photos/miscositaspix/collections/
   o Newspapers from around the world: www.omninternet.com/news/news.asp
✔️ Maps: www.worldatlas.com/clipart.htm
✔️ Material World | Peter Menzel photos: http://www.menzelpoto.com/books/mw.html
✔️ Videos of lessons that demonstrate good culture-rich thematic teaching can be viewed online at: www.learner.org
✔️ Sample thematic units and lesson plans in Spanish, Chinese, Thai & English can be downloaded here: http://www.miscositas.com/units.html
✔️ Fakealia (pedagogical materials made up to look real):
   o Transportation tickets, boarding passes: Ticket-o-Matic: http://omatic.musicairport.com/
   o Short cultural videos and “in-flight movies” that teach about a country, a city, a region or a cultural event: www.miscositas.com/miscositastv.html and http://www.youtube.com/miscositastv

Questions? Comments? Send an email!
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