

MULTICULTURAL LESSON PLAN: Humanity and Technology

GRADE: 8

DISCIPLINE: Geography: Economic Systems

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION EXPECTATIONS: By the end of Grade 8, students will:

- demonstrate an understanding of economic systems and the factors that influence them;
- describe the economic relationship between Canada and the global community (e.g., with respect to harvesting resources, manufacturing goods, the provision of services worldwide);
- use a variety of geographic representations, tools, and technologies, to gather, process, and communicate geographic information.

MULTICULTURAL MESSAGE: The teacher will show the role of the technology in changing the face of Canada and the world, as well as showing how technology has helped everyday living and the importance of technology as an important factor in influencing and affecting the world's economic systems.

ACTIVITY:

Preparation:

1) Put Students into groups of 3 to 5 and tell them to brainstorm x number of new technology and machines that are important in everyday life. Alternatively, if you have less time supply them with following new tech vocabulary.

1) Computer 2) Electric Light 3) Walkman 4) Modem 5) Clothes Washer 5) Dishwasher 7) TV 8) Stereo 9) VCR 10) CD-ROM 11) DVD 12) Satellite 13) Vacuum Cleaner 14) Air Conditioner 15) Cellular Phone 16) Hot water Heater

2) Give each student a piece of paper and tell them to make a grid with 16 lines and 2 columns, one column for name of technology and one for ranking.

3) Students rate the machines in order of importance... 1 being the highest and 14 the lowest.

4) Push them to come up with an agreed upon group ranking for the 14 machines.

Example:

A: I think a VCR is our first choice.

B: Why do you say that?

A: We can use it to watch movies!

A: A VCR is helpful for teaching in schools.

B: I think so too/I disagree/But what about _____? What are you talking about?

5) a) As a wrap up activity, the teacher can get the students to have a group debate over

why their rankings are correct.

b) Or teacher can move students into different groups and discuss and debate their ranking choices.

EVALUATION: Teacher can assign a writing assignment about the most important new technology in the world today, or in history, or let students use imagination and write about new technology in the future.