

A lesson on Creativity

Véronique Charriau – IUT Nantes- Veronique.Charriau@univ-nantes.fr

1. Creativity warm up:
 - a. **Drawing: complete some basic geometrical figures** and explain your idea or write the word next to it
 - b. or in small groups: collect pictures from magazines, give 10 pictures per group. Then imagine a dream using the pictures- take turns (30 min)
2. Watch a **TED talk** from Simple ways to spark your creativity (30 min)
https://www.ted.com/playlists/617/simple_ways_to_spark_your_creativity
3. Would you use any of these tips? Which and how?
4. Try disconnected words/ make up words (have a look at **wordnik**)- show the **jabberwocky** ([https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jabberwocky_\(po%C3%A8me\)](https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jabberwocky_(po%C3%A8me)))
5. Write a **haiku** - rules (15 min)
 - Haiku are formed of 3 lines and 17 syllables only.
 - three lines of 5, 7, and then 5 syllables each
 - The subject of a haiku should be either related to the seasons or something in nature.
 - Be specific. This means -- write about one thing.
 - No repetition/ no rhyme
 - Write in the present

Here are some examples:

Brutal North Pole winds

Cut like knives through unclothed skin.

Bundle tight tonight.

Sweaty summer heat

Sticks me to my auto seat.

A/C breeze is sweet.

6. Teambuilding activity: **Building a bridge** (45 min-1h). In groups of 4 students, must build a one-meter bridge between 2 tables using paper and tape and which can hold the car. Make sure to bring the following with you: paper, several rolls of cello tape, scissors, measuring tape and a toy car. Set a price for a piece of paper, tape, scissors, tape measure, cost of labour per minute and per person. 3 phases: phase 1, they discuss how they're going to build the bridge, and determine the budget. They come and see you and sell their idea. Make sure to negotiate and ask for lower prices, shorter time (4 minutes is a maximum). They usually forget to include their benefit, so also ask them to check. Second discussion/negotiation. Then each group in turn builds their bridge within the allotted time. When all the bridges are ready, they must test with the car.

