

EcoWarrior Teacher's Notes

This A2+-level article sheds light on ways to take part in environmental issues, through the eyes of a teenage Native American boy who is very committed to ecology. As well as A2+ activities, we have suggested some B1 extensions for use with mixed-level or more advanced classes.

This is also an excellent topic for an *EPI* « *Transition écologique et développement durable* », « *Information, communication, citoyenneté* » or « *Sciences, technologie et société* ». Other subjects involved: **Biology (SVT - adopter un comportement éthique et responsable)**, **Geography (4e : espaces transformés par la mondialisation, la révolution industrielle)** and **Education aux médias et à l'information (produire, communiquer, partager des informations)**.

Vocabulary

■ ecology and environmental issues, activism

Structures

- simple past and simple present
- complex sentences
- verb-ING: the gerund form

Interaction

■ We suggest video projecting the pictures of Xiuhtezcatl Martinez and ask pupils to comment, react, describe – first impressions of someone. Then project the title of the article and have them make further assumptions.

Reading + speaking

- **Activity A** helps pupils get the fact straight with 15 true or false statements to correct.
- **Activity B** is a fun way to go over important vocabulary words from the article again. A class debate can be initiated around the meaning of the mystery word. Pupils can then be asked to suggest a classification of the words from the

crossword by theme in a table or word cloud. For example:

Ecology/environment: re-usable, pesticides, plastic, oil, Earth, fracking

Native American: Aztec, native

Citizenship: culture, vote

Geography: U.S.A., Colorado (Earth)

They could add other words they've used while reading about and discussing the topic.

■ **Activity C** helps the pupils work on the gerund form Verb-ING after verbs of taste or command and action.

Speaking + writing

■ A2+ pupils can work in groups to come up with an eco-friendly project they could present to the rest of the class (*EPI* format possible: research (Geography and EMI), getting scientific help from Science teachers to check feasibility (Biology or Physics and Chemistry). B1 pupils can even come up with speeches to address the United Nations. See the suggestions in the video webpicks for observing and practising speaking to an audience.

Going Further: Listening and Observing Oratorical Technique

■ See the Eco-Warrior Webpicks on our website for suggested online videos on why and how Xiuhtezcatl Martinez became an eco-warrior. We've given suggestions for observing how he addresses and audience, and on working with images on the topic of being Native American in the modern U.S.A. www.speakeasy-news.com/videos-of-a-teenage-eco-warrior

Solutions

A. 1. F: rapper and musician 2. T
3. F: factories, 4. T 5. T 6. F: speech / an ecological demonstration 7. F: Colorado / five
8. T 9. F: to treat the planet respectfully and preserve it 10. F: mother 11. T 12. T
13. F: everyone 14. T 15. F: his little/younger brother

B. Across: 1. re-usable 4. Aztec 7. pesticides
11. plastic 12. culture 13. rap 15. vote 16. oil
17. teen 18. grow

Down: 2. U.S.A. 3. Earth 5. generation
6. fracking 8. Colorado 9. science 10. native
14. power

Mystery word: eco-warrior

C.1. a. started trying b. stopped using
c. stopped giving d. began writing and performing

2.a. Xiuhtezcatl Martinez started talking about protecting the planet when he was five years old.

b. He thinks people should stop buying products factories make.

c. Native Americans enjoy preserving the planet for future generations.

d. X really liked addressing the United Nations.