

CYPRESS HILL AND MARIJUANA

Date: Tuesday, Week 2
Name: Andie Levine

Period/Class Title: Per. 2, Spanish 3
Number of students: 34

OBJECTIVE:

Students will critically think about the legalization of marijuana and whether or not celebrities have the social responsibility to set a good example and support laws regarding drugs.

MATERIALS:

- 35 copies of article on Cypress hill, found at http://www.superstacion.fm/artistas/cypress_hill.htm
- 35 Spanish/English dictionaries
- CD Player
- CD of “Insane in the Brain”
- 20 sharpened pencils (for students who do not have one)

NOTES:

Mario Wilson is a *huge* Cypress Hill fan, so he will most likely want to talk a lot about this. Try as much as possible to pull information from him, but not let him overtake the class discussion.

STEPS:

- 1) Very quickly take roll
- 2) Write on board, “Who is Cypress Hill?” and have students respond aloud
- 3) Pass out article
- 4) Read article together, translating as we go along; it is not necessary to translate every word as long as we have the main idea
- 5) Listen to song, “Insane in the Brain”
- 6) Open up floor to discussion about whether or not Cypress Hill and other groups should be allowed to write about marijuana in their songs
- 7) Debate the issue of legalizing marijuana
- 8) Assign homework
- 9) Clean up

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITY:

Homework: Students will write in independent thinking journal about the social responsibility, or lack thereof, of celebrities regarding drugs.

LITERACY ASPECT:

Students will practice their reading comprehension by reading an article on Cypress Hill and trying to understand as much as they possibly can without translating every word. They will also verbally discuss their opinions on the legalization of marijuana, as well as write in their journal for homework.

REFLECTION/RESPONSE:

Lesson went well in the sense that it really got some students thinking and it truly challenged their reading comprehension in Spanish. As to be expected, some students were not verbal at all during the discussion and a few students really dominated the conversation. In the future, maybe I will have the students take a few moments to write down their thoughts before they start discussing. Maybe I will even have them discuss with a partner before we open up the discussion to the whole group.