

e-lesson

Week starting: May 3, 2010

1. The Red Cross

This week's lesson is about one of the world's most highly respected humanitarian organizations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. May 8th, the birthday of the founder of the Red Cross, Henry Dunant, is World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day.

Level

Intermediate and above (equivalent to CEF level B1 and above)

How to use the lesson

1. Explain the meaning of "humanitarian" and ask your students for examples of organizations in their country that do humanitarian work. Is there a humanitarian organization whose work your students particularly value or admire? Can your students think of any examples of international humanitarian organizations? Hopefully you will be able to elicit the name of the Red Cross or Red Crescent if you ask your students to think of an international humanitarian organization that works in war zones. Brainstorm on the subject of the Red Cross / Red Crescent – how much do the students already know about their work?
2. Hand out Worksheet A and give the students five to ten minutes to read through it. Encourage them to look up new vocabulary.
3. Divide the students into pairs, hand out Worksheet B, and ask them to work together to complete the crossword.
4. Check answers in open class.
5. Ask the students to put away Worksheets A and B, or to temporarily hand them back to you. Then, keeping the students in pairs, hand out Worksheet C, which contains the text from Worksheet A, and give them another ten minutes for the blank-fill exercise, in which they have to complete the missing words. If the students cannot remember what the words are, encourage them to try to figure them out from the context of the sentence. You might also want to point out that some of the words feature in the glossary (or, to make it more difficult, you could ask the students not to use their glossaries).
6. Check answers in open class.

Answers:

Exercise 1

1. prisoners 2. wounded 3. disaster 4. distributing 5. organizations 6. side
7. horrified 8. local 9. humanitarian 10. neutral 11. seeds

If the sentences have been completed correctly, *Switzerland* will read from top to bottom.

Exercise 2

1. armed 2. civilians 3. suffered 4. reunites 5. carried out 6. network
7. Crescent 8. rules 9. fought 10. nearby 11. principle 12. neutrality
13. treating 14. equally 15. part 16. relief 17. terrible 18. earthquake
19. restore 20. drinking

2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://www.redcross.org/>

The official website of the American Red Cross, with videos, pictures, and news stories about relief efforts, plus information on getting involved. Intermediate level and above.

http://www.supportgenevaconventions.info/library/geneva_conventions_summary.pdf

A summary of the Geneva Conventions, from The Coalition to Reaffirm and Extend the Geneva Conventions, an independent advocacy group. Intermediate level and above.

http://nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/1901/dunant-bio.html

The biography of Henry Dunant, founder of the Red Cross, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1901. Challenging for intermediate level.

<http://www.redcross.org/museum/history/claraBarton.asp>

The biography of Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross. Challenging for intermediate level.