

# Keeping it **REAL!**

## Incorporating Culturally Authentic Materials and Activities into the Language Classroom

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Visit the companion website for the PowerPoint and links to the resources from this workshop!  
<http://www.miscositas.com/authenticmaterials.html>



### ACTFL Standards

1. **Communication:** Communicate in Languages Other Than English

#### 2. **Cultures: Gain Knowledge & Understanding of Other Culture**

- 2.1: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the **practices and perspectives** of the culture studied.
- 2.2: Students demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between the **products and perspectives** of the culture studied.

3. **Connections:** Connect with Other Disciplines & Acquire New Information

4. **Comparisons:** Develop Insight into the Nature of Language & Culture

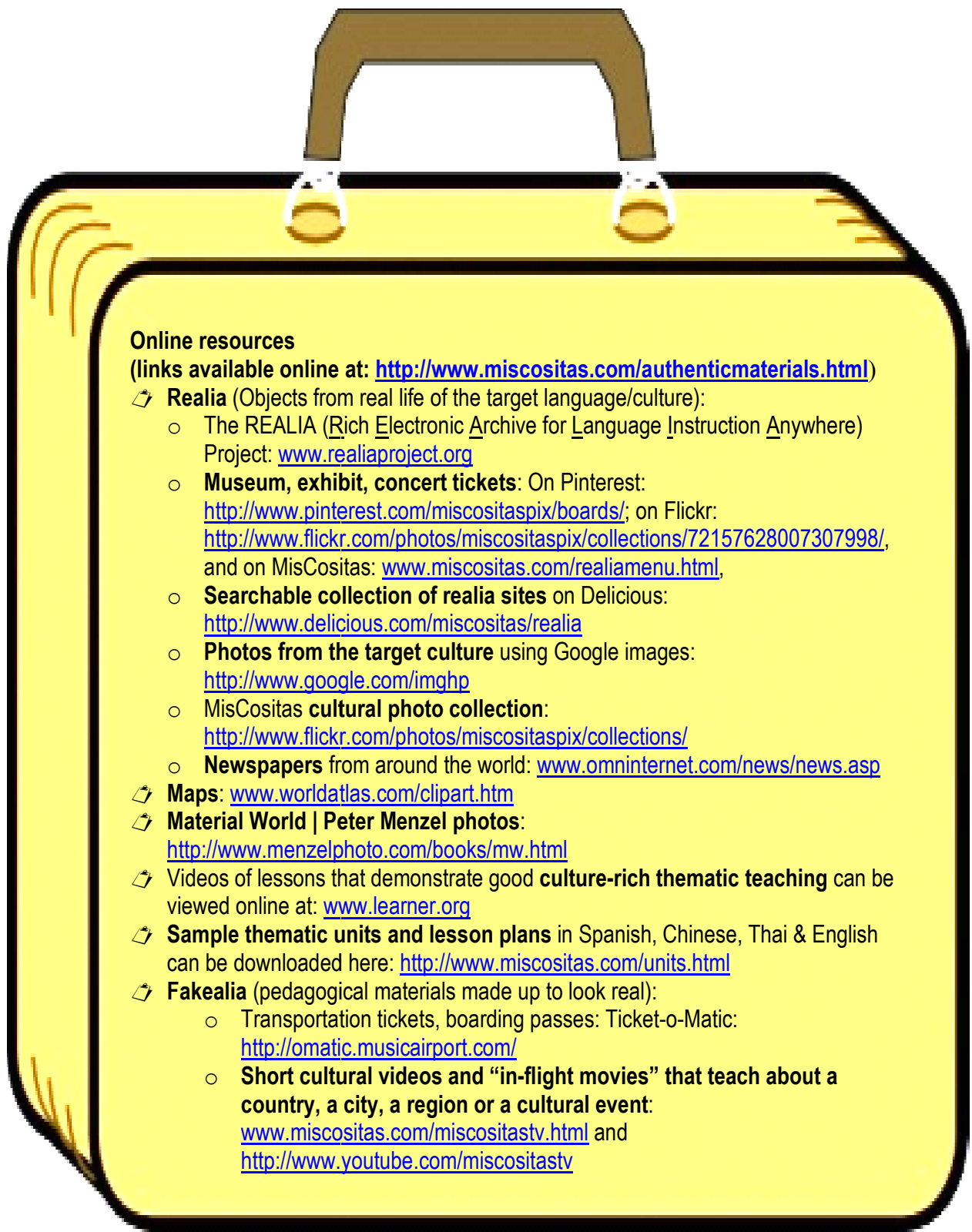
5. **Communities:** Participate in Multilingual Communities at Home and Around the World

**What is realia?** Objects from real life or from the real world, as opposed to theoretical constructs or fabricated examples; especially, such objects used as instructional or classroom aids. Materials that convey the everyday life of different cultures can be described as realia. These materials and objects are meant to be consumed by native speakers of the target language and/or culture.

**What is fakealia?** Teaching materials designed and developed by publishers and/or teachers that are made to look culturally authentic. These materials are created for students learning languages in a classroom setting and are not intended to be used by native or heritage speakers of the language.

### Cultural materials that convey the 3 Ps (Products, practices, and perspectives)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Folkart                       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quotes, proverbs, and sayings          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Utilitarian objects           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Memes                                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Games and toys                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Magazines and newspapers               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tickets, brochures, ads       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Videos and television                  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photographs                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Short films and movies                 |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Popular music and song lyrics | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Stories, folktales, and myths          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Music videos                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Children's, tween, and teen literature |



### Online resources

(links available online at: <http://www.miscositas.com/authenticmaterials.html>)

- 📁 **Realia** (Objects from real life of the target language/culture):
  - The REALIA (Rich Electronic Archive for Language Instruction Anywhere) Project: [www.realiaproject.org](http://www.realiaproject.org)
  - **Museum, exhibit, concert tickets**: On Pinterest: <http://www.pinterest.com/miscositaspix/boards/>; on Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/miscositaspix/collections/72157628007307998/>, and on MisCositas: [www.miscositas.com/realiamenu.html](http://www.miscositas.com/realiamenu.html),
  - **Searchable collection of realia sites** on Delicious: <http://www.delicious.com/miscositas/realia>
  - **Photos from the target culture** using Google images: <http://www.google.com/imghp>
  - MisCositas **cultural photo collection**: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/miscositaspix/collections/>
  - **Newspapers** from around the world: [www.omninternet.com/news/news.asp](http://www.omninternet.com/news/news.asp)
- 📁 **Maps**: [www.worldatlas.com/clipart.htm](http://www.worldatlas.com/clipart.htm)
- 📁 **Material World | Peter Menzel photos**: <http://www.menzelphoto.com/books/mw.html>
- 📁 Videos of lessons that demonstrate good **culture-rich thematic teaching** can be viewed online at: [www.learner.org](http://www.learner.org)
- 📁 **Sample thematic units and lesson plans** in Spanish, Chinese, Thai & English can be downloaded here: <http://www.miscositas.com/units.html>
- 📁 **Fakealia** (pedagogical materials made up to look real):
  - Transportation tickets, boarding passes: Ticket-o-Matic: <http://omatic.musicairport.com/>
  - **Short cultural videos and “in-flight movies” that teach about a country, a city, a region or a cultural event**: [www.miscositas.com/miscositastv.html](http://www.miscositas.com/miscositastv.html) and <http://www.youtube.com/miscositastv>

Questions? Comments? Send an email!  
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