Manifesto

Language level: Intermediate (B1) - Advanced (B2.2)
Learner type: All ages
Time: 90 minutes
Activity: Watching a short film, reading and listening to a kinetic typography video, reading, speaking and writing.
Topic: Manifestos, creativity
Language: Imperative form, first conditional, inspiring vocabulary and expressions
Materials: Short film, kinetic typography video and manifesto
Overview

This lesson is based on a short film The Holstee Manifesto: Lifecycle Video by Cooper Miller which is a call to action to live a life of creativity, passion, integrity and community. The film was commissioned by Hoslttee a design company founded on ethical principles. The lesson practises the imperative form, inspiring vocabulary, listening, reading and speaking.

Step 1

Write manifesto on the board, and ask your students what it means. After students have given their definitions give them this dictionary definition:

*a written public statement declaring the intentions, motives, or views of a government, group or individual*

Ask your students if they can give any examples of manifestos.

Step 2

Tell your students they are going to watch a short film which explains a manifesto.

Pre-teach the following vocabulary:

to quit, to seize, to hug, to share, a bite

Ask students to answer the following questions:

What is the manifesto?

What values are mentioned in the manifesto?

Who wrote this manifesto?
Link:  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QDmt_t6umoY

After watching ask students to compare their answers in pairs and then get feedback from the whole class

**Step 3**

Tell your students that they are now going to listen and read the manifesto using a kinetic typography video, and they should check anything they didn't understand while watching the film.

Link:  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQAzi8q_2LY&feature=related

Ask your students the following questions:

What do you think of the manifesto?

What do you identify with personally?

What do you like about the manifesto?

Is there anything you don't like?

Is it a good guide for life?

Is it too simplistic?

**Step 4**

Now show this image of the manifesto and ask students to read it.
THIS IS YOUR LIFE.
DO WHAT YOU LOVE, AND DO IT OFTEN.

IF YOU DON’T LIKE SOMETHING, CHANGE IT.
IF YOU DON’T LIKE YOUR JOB, QUIT.
IF YOU DON’T HAVE ENOUGH TIME, STOP WATCHING TV.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE, STOP;
THEY WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU WHEN YOU START DOING THINGS YOU LOVE.

STOP OVER ANALYZING. LIFE IS SIMPLE.
ALL EMOTIONS ARE BEAUTIFUL.
WHEN YOU EAT, APPRECIATE EVERY LAST BITE.

OPEN YOUR MIND, ARMS, AND HEART TO NEW THINGS
AND PEOPLE, WE ARE UNITED IN OUR DIFFERENCES.
ASK THE NEXT PERSON YOU SEE WHAT THEIR PASSION IS,
AND SHARE YOUR INSPIRING DREAM WITH THEM.

TRAVEL OFTEN: GETTING LOST WILL HELP YOU FIND YOURSELF.
SOME OPPORTUNITIES ONLY COME ONCE, SEIZE THEM.

LIFE IS ABOUT THE PEOPLE YOU MEET, AND
THE THINGS YOU CREATE WITH THEM.
SO GO OUT AND START CREATING.

LIFE IS SHORT. LIVE YOUR DREAM,
AND WEAR YOUR PASSION.
Step 5

Explain to your students that this is The Holstee Manifesto written by Mike, Fabian and Dave when they set up Holstee an ethical design and clothing company. They sat down on the steps of Union Square in New York and wrote down exactly what they wanted from life and how to create a company that breathed that passion into the world every day. The result became known as The Holstee Manifesto and has since been shared over 500,000 times and viewed over 60 million times online. The words of the manifesto resonate with many people throughout the world as a call to action to live a life full of creativity, passion and integrity.

Step 6

Tell your students you would like them to write their own manifestos to promote passionate, creative living. Put them into small groups, and tell them to use The Holstee Manifesto as a model. They should use the imperative form and inspiring vocabulary and expressions. Give them 10 minutes to create drafts of their manifesto. After 10 minutes ask a spokesperson from each group to read out their manifesto. Ask students to comment on the manifestos.

Homework

Ask students to write their own personal manifesto which should be a call to action to live a life of creativity, passion, integrity and community. Tell them they can use different colours and images in their manifestos.

I hope you enjoy the films and the lesson.