

SPANISH CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES

FOR CARMEN SANDIEGO EPISODES

SEASON 1, EPISODE 8: "The Lucky Cat Caper"

Carmen chases down a priceless rare stamp in foggy San Francisco, where she crosses paths with an old rival.

Questions and Answers / Preguntas y respuestas

Ask students these questions about San Francisco.

1. **¿Cuál es el apodo de San Francisco?** (*La ciudad de la niebla*)
2. **¿Por qué recibió la ciudad este apodo?** (*Porque casi siempre hay niebla*)
3. **¿Qué nombre le pusieron los habitantes a la niebla?** (*Karl*)
4. **¿Cuáles son los sitios o cosas más icónicos de San Francisco?** (*el puente Golden Gate, los tranvías, el barrio chino, la Roca (la isla de Alcatraz), el sitio de la cárcel Alcatraz*)

Write a Short Summary / Escribe un breve resumen

Students write a brief summary of the episode.

1. Have students include the following: main characters, setting, item in question, and the resolution. Consider providing a chart or other graphic organizer to help students organize their thoughts and note Spanish vocabulary words and expressions they want to use in their writing.
2. After students write independently, work as a class to compile a group summary.





Nightmares / Las pesadillas

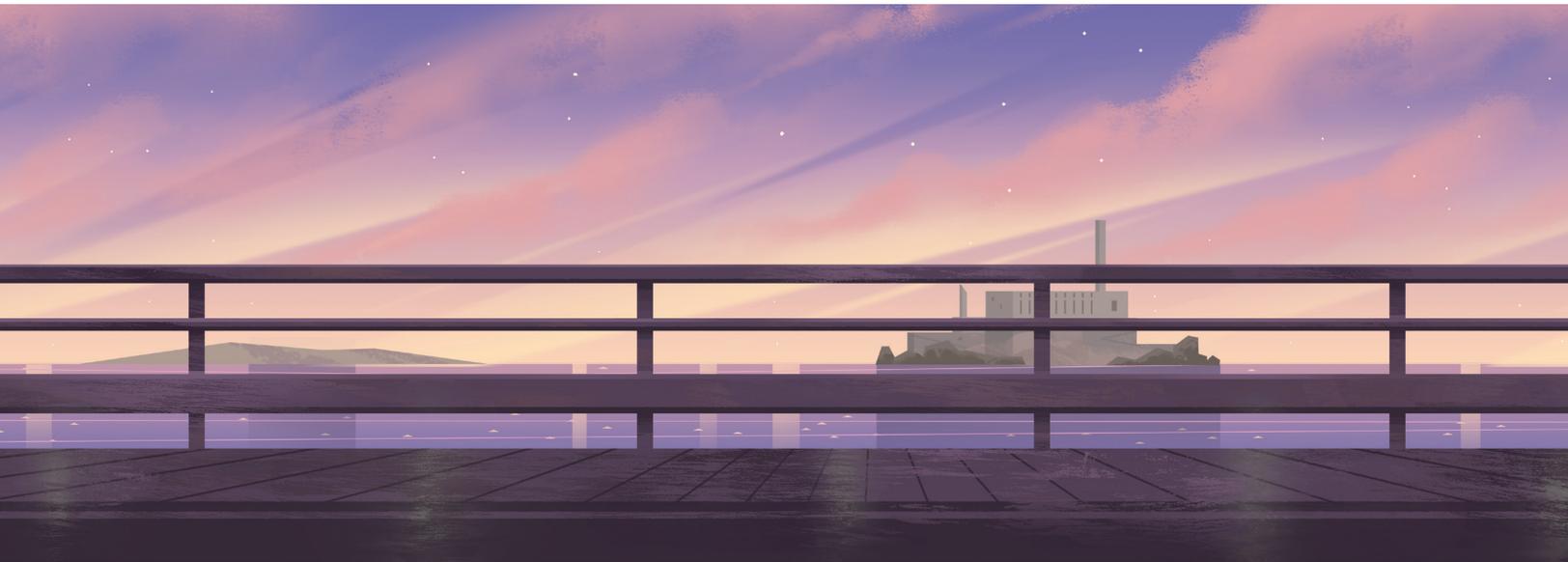
The episode begins with Carmen's nightmare about failing Shadowson's exam. Have students work in pairs to imagine and describe a nightmare that one of the other characters may have.

1. Place students in pairs.
2. Have students choose a character that they would like to work with.
3. Based on their knowledge of the character, students write a very short nightmare scene that illustrates aspects of the character, such as particular events, likes/dislikes, personality type, character strengths or flaws, etc.
4. Students illustrate or find images to accompany their writing.

How Can I Help Others? / ¿Cómo puedo ayudar a los demás?

Students write an essay describing how they can help others.

1. Carmen helps others by donating the money she gets to charities whose missions she likes. As a class, brainstorm some ways to help others. These may include sending someone a card, donating a meal to a hungry family, or volunteering to help younger children learn to read. Use this activity to teach strategies for using a Spanish-English dictionary or translation software, and to have students find the words and expressions they need to express themselves.
2. Have students write an essay about different ways they can help other people and why helping others is an important part of being a good citizen. Alternatively, have students focus on one way of helping and explain how it benefits others and society as a whole.





Create a Stamp / Crea un sello

Students create a postage stamp depicting something important from their own community.

1. Share that the black on magenta stamp was designed and printed in 1856 in Guyana by a newspaper printer when a shipment of stamps did not arrive from Great Britain. Not many were printed and only one is known to exist now. This stamp is now very valuable to collectors because it is so rare.
2. Share the examples of stamps from around the world. Explain that countries create a variety of stamps in part to appeal to philatelists, or stamp collectors. Stamps often have art depicting people, places, or things that are important to the country printing the stamp.
3. Have each student create a stamp design that depicts an important person, place, or thing from the local community or from a Spanish-speaking country. Each student should also write a brief explanation in Spanish of what is depicted on the stamp.



To learn more about Carmen Sandiego, visit hmhco.com/carmen.

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