

# World Languages

March 2019 Newsletter



## World Languages Faculty

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# ¿Un *gran* payaso o un payaso *grande*?



Spanish II students are currently mastering adjective placement, which makes a world of difference in the meaning of sentences in Spanish. In Spanish the adjective “*gran/grande*” means big or great. However, its placement before the noun takes on an entirely different meaning than the latter of the following two phrases. The phrase “*Un gran payaso*” translates as a great clown---meaning one who is great at what he does, makes people laugh, dresses the part, and perhaps performs as any great master clown should. The words “*Un payaso grande*” however, mean that the clown is big, size wise. The students’ project, shown below, will require them to demonstrate the intricate differences between describing objects and people innately, as with the adjective preceding the noun—vs. adjective following noun, which derives a more literal meaning.

The projects may contain illustrations made by students themselves, or images found on the internet that depict the differences in meaning incurred from adjective placement. The list at the bottom of the project is the base list, for which the illustrations must show these differences. The Clifford illustration is meant to give them an idea of what I will look for in their pictures.

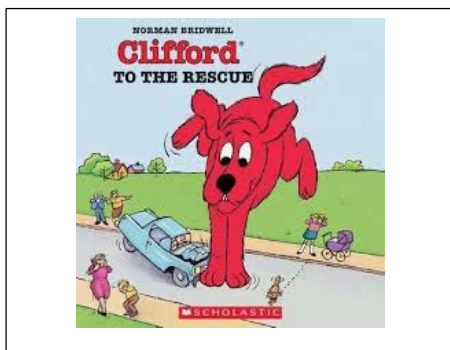
## Español II

### Proyecto: la posición de los adjetivos...

Haz una ilustración y una oración para demostrar las DOS posiciones de los adjetivos...ve la tabla de calificación abajo para el puntaje.

MODELO: un perro (grande)

Clifford era un **gran perro**.



Clifford era un **perro grande**.



### Lista de objetos con adjetivos: (14 en total)

un maestro de ceremonias (grande)

unos amigos (viejo)

el mago (mismo)

los ratoncitos (pobre)

un estudiante (bueno)

un payaso (malo)

un carro (nuevo)

### Other news:

The Spanish Club, under the direction of Mrs. Rendón and Mrs. Germann recently raised over \$300 from pizza sales which will be donated this Spring toward the Pat Kowaleski Memorial Scholarship. Senior World Language students, whether studying Spanish, French, or German, will be eligible to apply for this money. Students who have achieved the academic criteria and who plan to study and use foreign language in their life's pursuits are welcome to apply. The recipient will be notified and presented with the money at Senior Awards Night in May.

# UNAS NOTAS DEL SEÑOR TAYLOR...

-The **World Languages Department** will participate in World Language Day 2019 at SIU on April 4. This event has been highly anticipated after being cancelled for the past two years. Although the “scholar bowl” part has been revised some, it will have some creative competition aspects.

-We are very happy to have Ms. Merriam Lahlou as a full time faculty member. Her impressive French background will benefit our students and add strength to our World Language community. She motivates her students to compete and do well! She has already received several recognitions, including the most recent FIRST PLACE “door contest”

-We review and closely monitor our dual credit classes annually to insure students are getting their maximum due credit. The AP Spanish class agreement has been updated to reflect that 8 hours will be awarded next year.

-The 2019 seal of biliteracy test will be given on March 22. We have 13 students who are taking the challenge. The test that is used is the AAPPL (ACTFL Assessment of Performance toward Proficiency in Languages) test and is a very rigorous test. The ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) has taken on the leadership role in the creation of national standards.

-The Pat Kowalewski Memorial Scholarship Award: This will be year four for the award that was initiated by Robin Gross a former CCHS French/Spanish Teacher. Anyone wishing to contribute to this fund should contact the CCHS Administration Office. We thank Mrs. Gross for her continuing support for CCHS World Language students!

-Two veteran teachers at CCHS, Ms. María Taylor and Ms. Sharon Lorinskas plan to retire in June. Their dedication and long tenure at CCHS has helped countless students find their path. Although we will miss them, we are happy to know that they will still be involved in the community to share their expertise. A big DANKE and GRACIAS to both of them!

-We’re looking forward to getting more physical space in our department in order to improve our efficiency in the classroom for teachers and students.

Enjoy the articles from our teachers and please let me know if you have any questions or comments about the World Languages Department.

~Arnold Taylor

World Languages Department Newsletter  
February, 2019

German students have been actively involved in learning about the language and culture of German speaking countries. During the summer, three students and Frau Lorinkas traveled to Leipzig, Germany to participate in the AATG (American Association of Teachers of German) Summer Study Program. They stayed with host families, attended school at the Wilhelm-Ostwald Gymnasium, a school specializing in STEM subjects, and visited Berlin, Dresden, and Weimar, in addition to learning about the history of Leipzig and of course study and practicing German

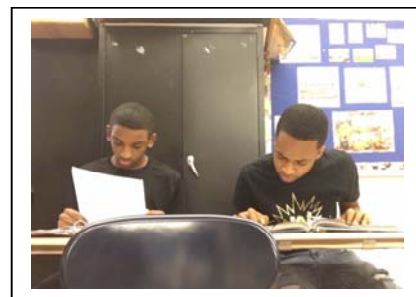


**Callie Barrette, Evan Ewing, and Annabelle Staples at the Zwinger in Dresden**



## Sra. Rendón's Classes Focus on "Taking Their Shots"

Michael Jordan is quoted as saying, "I've missed more than 9,000 shots in my career. I've lost almost 300 games. Twenty-six times I've been trusted to take the game winning shot and missed. I've failed over and over and over again in my life. And that is why I succeed." Success through failure. Learning by doing. Learn from your mistakes. These are the ideas embraced by Spanish I students this year.



Language is a skill and, like any skill, is learned only through practice. Language skills must be practiced, much like a basketball player practices lay ups or free throws. These skills cannot be learned by reading a book. You have to pick up a ball and practice. Again and again and again. The key to learning a skill is to do it, understanding that the more you do it, the better you get. We are calling this, "Taking your shots." You will miss more shots than you make, but you still have to take your shots if you want to win. Quitting isn't an option and perfection isn't realistic. Mistakes will be made. Learn from them and take another shot.



Recently, students staged pictures of themselves engaged in various activities from our vocabulary. They will use the pictures as communication prompts to ask questions, discuss, and write about what classmates are doing in the photos. In addition, students are reading a short story about the Miranda family, from San José, Costa Rica. Students are learning to employ various reading strategies to enhance comprehension and expanding their writing skills by responding to prompts about the story.

# *French News 2018-2019*

This has been a great year so far where a lot of fun and learning took place.

This fall, all French students worked on projects, based on the famous French classic novel, “Les Misérables” by Victor Hugo. Honors French 4 put up an abridged play of the novel. These activities culminated with students going to the Fox theatre in Saint Louis, to watch “Les Misérables”, the musical. While in Saint-Louis, we took the opportunity to have lunch at an authentic French café and the highlight of the meal was students got to speak French with the French chef who rewarded each one who tried, with a free cookie.



In November, French Club organized our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual French Trivia night. The students' efforts were rewarded by a successful and fun event.



# *French continued*

During National French Week, students had fun participating in the annual daily Trivia Question contests open to the whole school. This year, during that same week, all level French students got the opportunity to participate in the National French Kahoot and National French Essay competition, both put together by the American Association of French Teachers (AATF).



French Club ended the Fall semester, watching with the German club, the famous movie “Noël”, where French and German are both spoken, and which highlights French and German cultures and the human similarities that outweigh the differences. This Spring, we are off

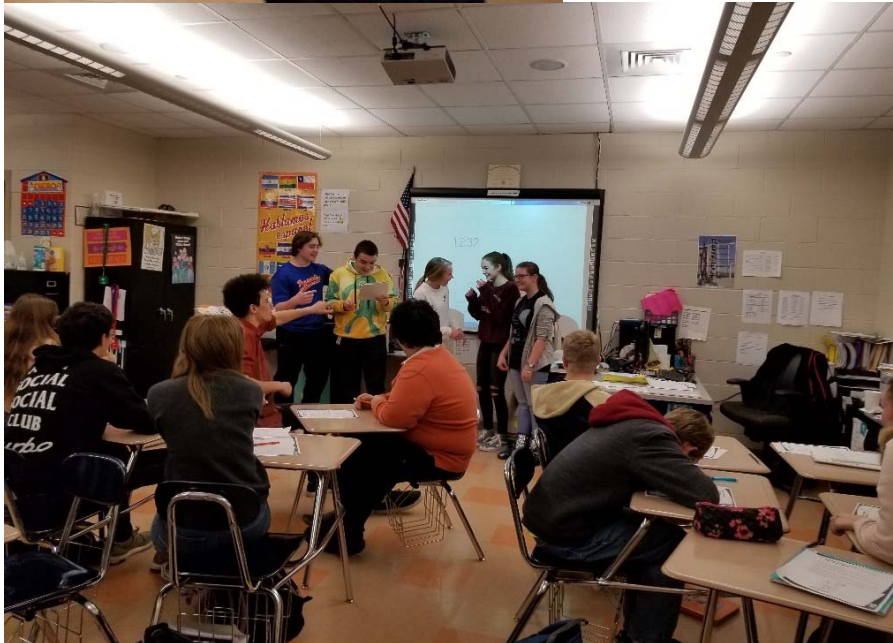
to a great start with all the French 3 and Honors French 3 scoring an A on their first quiz and being rewarded with the sampling of an authentic “Galette des Rois”. Some of the fun learning activities in the plans this spring, are a French concert where students will be greeting patrons in French, a taste of Francophone culture at the Multicultural festival, and community service teaching French at a local elementary school.

Upperclassmen French students will also be competing in the National French contest where they will be practicing all their language skills.

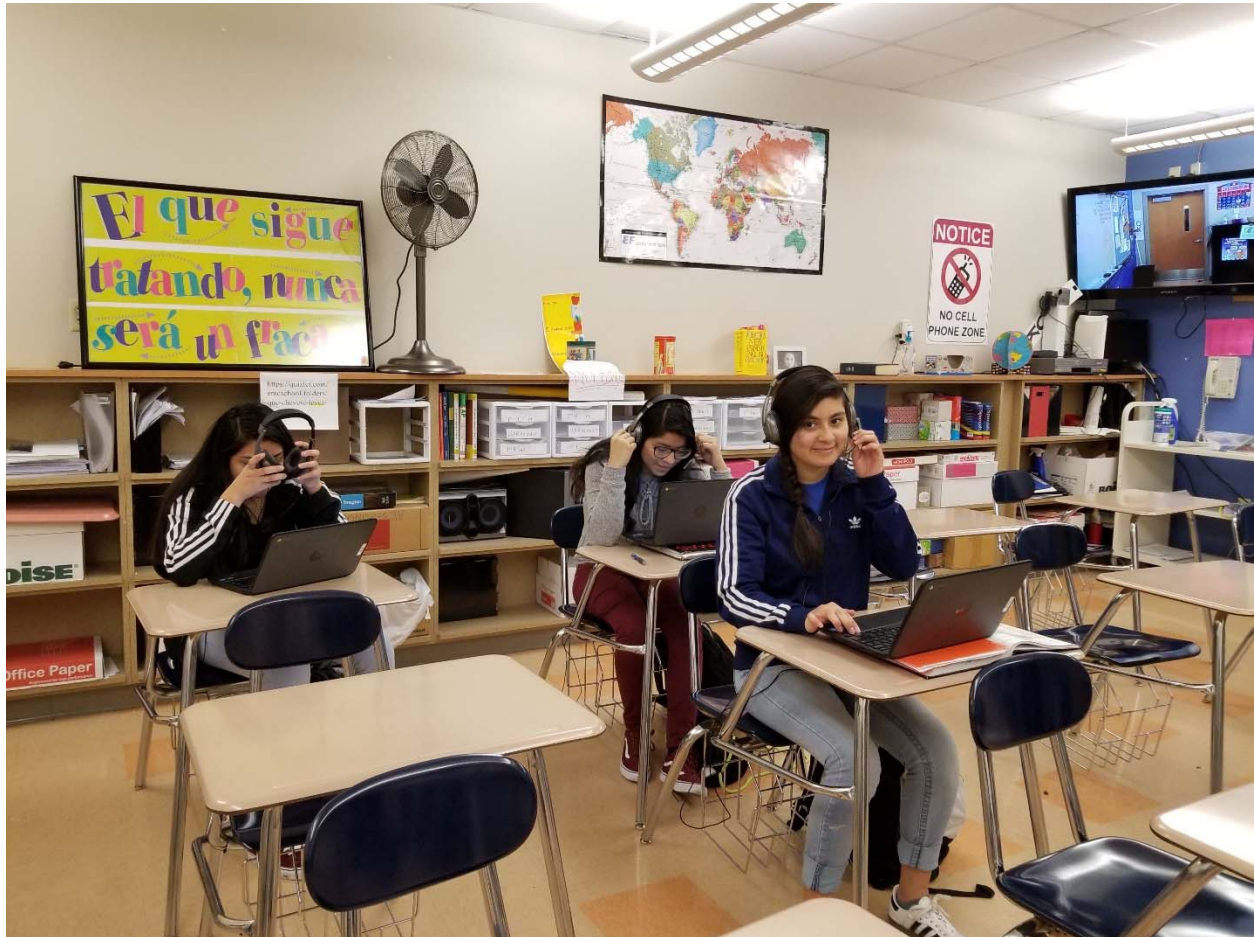
\_\_by Madame Lahlou

*Mrs. Taylor's Spanish classes...*  
*Putting into practice their recently acquired language skills...*

Spanish II students are working in groups with step by step instructions and a time limit per step to review a grammar point and put it together with any previous knowledge and vocabulary. They make a little conversation which leads into more practice of the grammar point and culminates in a presentation of a song, a rap, or a chant with a rhythm of their choice. We have some extremely talented young people who will do great things with languages in the future!



*...continued*



Current Spanish IV students making use of technology to prepare for the upcoming AP test. Listening and speaking activities via Chromebook is a very efficient way to access and give personalized feedback --that otherwise would be impossible.

Our students are totally comfortable navigating through the sites and enjoy the amount of control they have over how much they do here and how much they do at home. Goals and time is set for them to be met; so managing is also an integral part of preparing for College life and beyond.