Presentational Activity "How to Read and Understand Russian Icons"

Learning Plan and Activity Overview
- **Context:** Russian heritage students, Advanced Low/Advanced Med
- **Lesson Can-Do Statements Addressed:** I can describe an art artifact in Russian; I can compare and discuss art artifacts in Russian.
- **Communicative Mode:** Presentational - Writing and Speaking
- **Delivery Mode:** Asynchronous
- **Plan for Assessment:** Instructor will provide a voice feedback for Parts 1 and 2 separately. Instructor will look for evidence of: accuracy of written and audio commentary and creativity; using culturally and grammatically appropriate expressions; accuracy of facts; copyright and plagiarism issues.
- **Materials needed / Technology tool or application:** Google Docs, Google Slides, VoiceThread, Instructions on how to leave comment on VoiceThread
- **Estimated time for completion**: 1 week (Part 1 takes 3 days; Part 2 takes 3 days).

Brief Description: This is the **final presentational stage** of Unit "How to Read and Understand Russian Icons?" By the time students start working on their projects, they already watched 2 interactive videos on Russian icons vs. secular paintings, received some background information from interactive websites, completed vocabulary-building activities, read short texts on the topic, and compared and contrasted icons and secular works in class. I explained my project (especially VoiceThread which is entirely in Russian) here: http://screencast-o-matic.com/watch/cb1ubAljPe

Explanations: This is an activity for Russian heritage students. Oral comprehension and speaking are easier for them than writing. This project combines speaking and writing. The teacher encourages students to do more writing than speaking when they post the comments.

Part 1 of the project includes (3 days):

1) students sign for a partner on a Google Doc provided by the teacher;

2) partners choose 2 works of art to be described - one icon and one painting - researching the websites from a list of resources. The titles of the works chosen are sent to the teacher via e-mail or are posted in the small group work area; the titles need to be confirmed by the teacher before students move on;

3) each group creates 1 or 2 Google Slides based on the model provided by the teacher; this stage includes writing detailed notes to be commented on by the teacher by voice on the slides;

4) partners read the teacher's feedback and make all the changes required in writing on the slides.

Part 2 When all groups finish making and revising their slides, the teacher saves them as a

pdf and **creates a collective VoiceThread**. After that:

1) partners record their presentations on VoiceThread using a video option (one student describes an icon, and another describes a painting; they decide together on their roles). It will take 1 day;

2) students comment on the other groups' slides. Each student has to make no less than 5 comments, preferably in writing (2 days);

3) teacher assesses the final projects and provides individual comments privately through voice on their original presentational video recording.

Here is the VoiceThread I created in Russian as a sample: https://voicethread.com/myvoice/thread/9293360/53194615/52833103

I made **detailed instructions for students in Russian on Google Slides and VoiceThread.** Here are the instructions in Russian for the very beginning of the project. They are described in English above under Part 1 (1,2).

Подготовка к презентации по теме "Как читать и понимать иконы?"

1. Найдите партнера и запишитесь в Google Doc.
2. Работая вместе, выберите картину и икону, которые вы будете описывать и сравнивать. Вы найдете ресурсы здесь.
3. Сообщите учителю названия вашей картины и иконы по электронной почте или прямо в форуме для маленьких групп, где вы будете работать с партнером.
4. Подождите ответа учителя. Только после того, как учитель ответит, идите сюда и начинайте работу.