Visual Art and Foreign Language acquisition

Art as an efficient teaching tool in the classroom
Objectives:

- Create a cultural background.
- Develop new vocabulary, and recycle all known vocabulary.
- Recycle all known grammatical structures.
- Practice target language through creative writing.
- It can be used with any foreign language level.
To get started:

- Present a piece of artwork (picture).
- Present cultural background.
Las Meninas. Cultural background

What is this?

Who painted it?

When was it painted?

Where?

What does it represent (objectively)?
Next step: Vocabulary building/Brainstorm

What colors?

What people?

Family members/social relationships

Emotions: How do they feel?

Adjectives

Jobs/Professions

Clothing

Furniture

Verbs: What actions does it suggest?
Creating simple sentences

With the created vocab, the Students work on Basic sentence building

Examples: The girl is small. There is a dog, and he is sweet. The women have beautiful dresses, but they are old fashioned.

The purpose of this step is to create a general, united context between the work of art And the created vocabulary pool.
And now: Creating a Story

With the background already there, the students create a more complex story, based on the vocabulary Bank and the simple sentence setup.

It can be as complex as their level permits.
The Story Created

• One little girl is walking to her house. She is very pretty and small, and she wears a beautiful golden dress. Her hair is blond, and long. She looks happy and her dog is walking next to her. He is big, and looks sweet. She lives in a different time, when dresses are long and old-fashioned....
What have we achieved?

• A cultural background that connects the students with the world of the target language.
• Vocabulary enrichment and practice.
• Grammatical practice.
• General, creative practice, through writing.