



Foreign Language Virtual Learning

# Clowning Around

May 21, 2020



## 6th Grade Foreign Cultures

### Lesson: May 21, 2020

#### **Objective/Learning Target:**

I can analyze relationships and interactions within and between human and physical systems to explain reciprocal influences that occur among them.



Warm Up: Are you afraid of clowns? Why? How has popular culture, such as movies, TV and books, fed in to these fears?



People have been terrified of clowns for centuries. Read this article from [Smithsonian Magazine](#) about the history of the fear of clowns and how it plays out today.

Why do you think this is true? What could be some misconceptions, fears, or phobias about clowns? Did the film offer any clues about these fears or misconceptions?

Answer these questions on this [form](#).



I once heard a radio host say that humor should be challenging and push the boundaries of what is normally appropriate or acceptable in society. Comedians and other entertainers aren't just supposed to make people laugh, but to reveal the truth about the human condition, what it means to be human.

Here are a few articles about the role of humor in society.

[BBC "How comedy makes us better people"](#)

[The five functions of humor](#)



Answer the following question on this [form](#).

How can humor create just enough distance from "reality" to help tell a deeper truth?



## Additional Resources

Mrs. Keane grew up watching the “Bozo the Clown” TV show. Here is a clip: [Bozo the Clown](#)

Denise Winterman, "[Shakespearean Fools: Their modern equivalents.](#)" *BBC News Magazine*, March 31, 2012.