

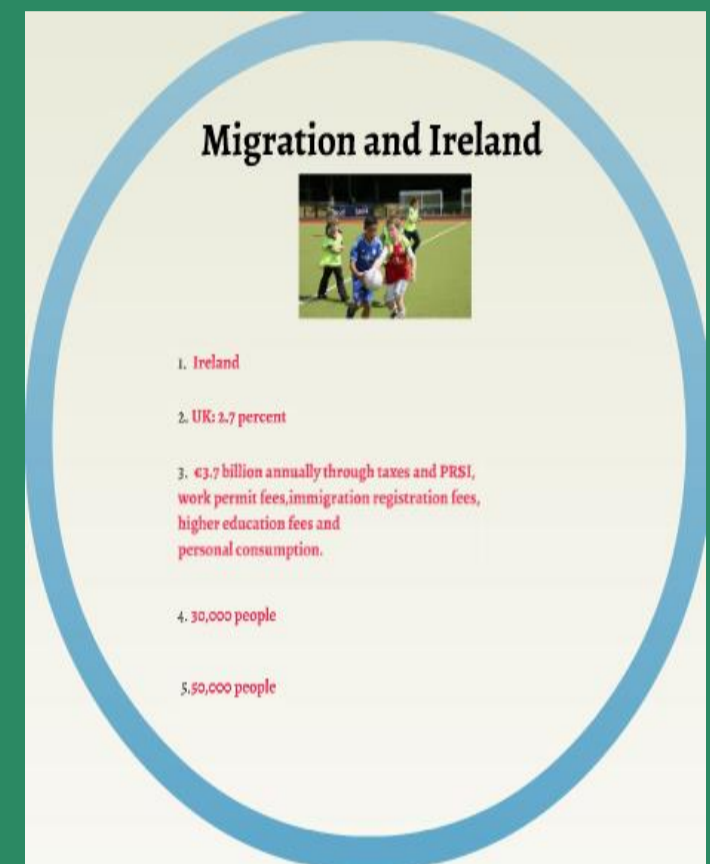
Culturally Responsive Education: Exploring team teaching by challenging student teachers to think differently.

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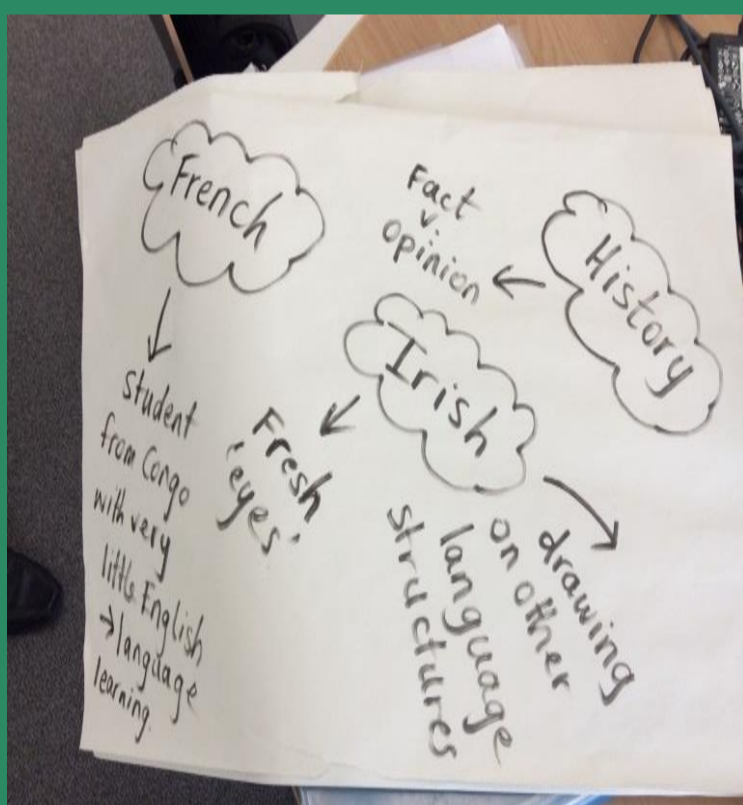
The idea



- There is a considerable gap in the Irish education system at second level in relation to the provision made for Irish classrooms. It can no longer be assumed to be a monolingual or monocultural environment.
- To tackle this we devised a workshop as part of Maynooth University's Dev Ed week which put student teachers in the position of being a potential 'outsider' in the classroom.
- The end goal of the workshop was to prompt student teachers to think of ways they can imaginatively see student's various backgrounds as resources rather than deficits.



Why team teaching?



- We felt the medium of team teaching would suit this type of workshop because it allowed us to ensure that we took an approach which was at once informal, personal and conversational.
- Having two teachers in the room helped us organize effective group work, take individual feedback and ensure everyone could share their ideas in an efficient manner.
- Finally, having two teachers in the room allowed us to 'bounce off' one another and to develop an open classroom climate which made it easier to discuss issues which can often be quite sensitive.

