

Group building with a fotoromanzo

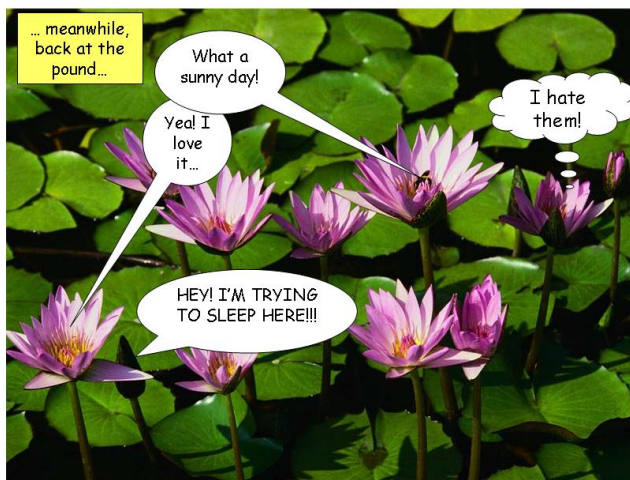
Instructions for participants

A fotoromanzo is a typical Italian form of popular lower-culture production mixing romantic novels, photography, comics and cinema. It's a very 60's and 70's thing and in Italy played an important role in teaching the language to generations of women (in 1976 8.600.000 copies of fotoromanzi were sold each month).

It's based in simple stories made of pictures with the classic comics balloons and the plot is usually quite simple love stories, good over evil, with *black vs. white* views of life (the rich is mean, the poor is good, those who love are betrayed and so on...).

Besides this simple approach to life and the very poor cultural contents, a fotoromanzo is a very interesting metaphor of a project: you have an idea and you must turn it into a final result. This is exactly what we are asking you today:

- Think of a story about your Youth in Action previous experiences and/or future plans (individual);
- Propose your idea to your group and, as a group, chose one to act (group);
- Make the fotoromanzo! Go out there, find the perfect setting and start taking pictures (group);
- Using a simple power point presentation assemble your fotoromanzo (group);



Example. In the activity use people, not flowers!

- Back in the plenary show it and act it (each actor reads her/his sentences).

[Suggestions: you should think on how to involve everyone, on roles distribution, on scene settings, on a script and so on... it's a project, don't forget (you know, resources, obstacles, time...)]

Group building with a fotoromanzo

Instructions for staff

Give a very short introduction to the concept of fotoromanzo handing out a page from a real magazine (or just print the fotoromanzo.jpg) to all the participants (they can assemble the pages later if they are curious about it...)

- Read out the rules and timing (rules and timing can change depending on the choice between basic team building version or complex project making simulation)
- Hand out the stories [only for version with ready to use case studies]
- Split participants into groups of 4–6 partici
- Send them out to work

...

- When groups are back have them “play” each fotoromanzo while projecting them on a wall
- Open the floor to short debriefing on why a fotoromanzo can be a metaphor of a project

List of possible case studies (all have an open ending left to the creativity of the group):

- An EVS volunteer can never get adapted to the local culture and struggles with his hosting NGO...
- A partnership is built from the common interest in music of the different NGO's and it ends up in a specific project (seminar, youth exchange, evs, you choose)...
- A project must be co-financed and the partners need to convince their respective local authorities on how good the idea is...
- Your NA has informed you that they will make an inspection in your NGO concerning your Youth in Action project...
- You are going to present Youth in Action in your local high school but the kids are not exactly interested...
- ...

Group building with a fotoromanzo

La sua sfuriata non ha avuto l'esito sperato...

La pensi davvero così? Nessuno mi aveva mai umiliata tanto prima di adesso in vita mia!

E' uscita paonazza per la rabbia... Stefano fa il numero della segretaria.

Mi spiace, forse ti consolerà il fatto che nelle cose c'è sempre una prima volta... adesso, visto che mi hai lasciato, potresti anche andartene che ho da fare cose urgenti? Senza rancore...

Senta signorina, dobbiamo velocizzare una pratica per un prestito per una signora... Alida.

Dottore, lei lo aveva bocciato!

Lo so, ma a volte si sbaglia, a lei non è mai capitato di sbagliare? L'importante è accorgersene quando si è ancora in tempo per riparare... quel prestito deve essere rilasciato, e al più presto. Intesi?

Come vuole lei dottore...

Si è cambiato e ha indossato di nuovo i semplici vestiti che Alida gli aveva comprato...

E' permesso? Si può?

Mamma, mamma! E' tornato Stefano!

Questi sono per la mamma... e questi per te.

Ma cosa ti sei messo a fare! A sprecare soldi per fiori e paste... non dovevi.

E' stata una giornata fortunata, me lo sono potuto permettere.

E anche le paste sembrano buone... sei un mito!

Sono... sono dei fiori meravigliosi...

77