

European Day of Languages 2014



Competition for school pupils: Photo writing

Dear colleague,

All across our country, people know, use and learn languages; the European Day of Languages is an opportunity to celebrate what we do, whatever the languages we know and learn!

Therefore, to mark the European Day of Languages on 26th September 2014, we invite schools in the North- East region to participate in our annual pupil competition.

Photo writing

Pupils take a photograph of a conversational situation – this could be an informal chat, an argument, an interview, a transactional situation, etc., etc.

They then write in their chosen language their idea of the conversation / dialogue taking place.

The judges anticipate that Primary pupils will write a short conversation / dialogue, but that Secondary pupils will write more; At KS4 and KS5, the judges will expect the use of a variety of vocabulary and more sophisticated language.

Entrants will submit the photograph with the text.

Judges will be looking for expressive and distinctive use of language.

If students wish to edit their original photos there is a great opportunity for crosscurriculum learning with colleagues in ICT, especially in connection with photo editing and with exploring the moral and copyright issues of taking and using photos.

Otherwise entrants are advised to construct their conversational situations to make them interesting – setting up the characters in the conversation in a tableau (with props? in costume?). They need in any case to check with the people in their photograph that they are happy to be included.

Entries must involve words in a language other than English, and no entry can be larger than a sheet of A4 paper.

Entries should be clearly marked with the pupil's name, age, class, teacher and school. Please give teacher contact details for your bundle of entries so that we can contact winners.

We reserve the right to use winning entries including the photographs for display or promotional purposes and will inform you accordingly through newsletters or ebulletins. Please note that entries cannot be returned.

Entries are to be sent to:

EDL Competition, c/o René Koglbauer, Network for Languages, School of Education, Communication and Language Sciences, Newcastle University, NE1 7RU Entries can also be submitted electronically by email to <u>nflne@ncl.ac.uk</u>.

The intention is that this might form an activity in your school around the European Day of Languages itself (Thursday 26 September), so the deadline for submission of entries will be: Monday 6th. October 2014.

£50 vouchers will be offered to the winners; there will be one winner for each key stage, up to and including KS5. Runner-up prizes may also be awarded at the judges' discretion. In the event of insufficient entries of good quality in any specific key stage no prize will be awarded; the judges' decision is final. The judges are made up of the competition organisers and sponsors (whom we thank): ALL, Network for Languages NE, Europe Direct and Crossroads Languages.

Best wishes

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www.ALL-languages.org.uk www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/northeast www.crossroadslanguages.com/ www.northleadershipcentre.co.uk/languages.html http://europedirectnortheastengland.wordpress.com/

PS European Day of Languages (26 Sep 2013, Europe-wide)

Throughout Europe, 800 million Europeans in the Council of Europe's 47 member states are encouraged to learn more languages, at any age, in and out of school. The Council of Europe promotes plurilingualism in the whole of Europe, as it is convinced that linguistic diversity is a tool for achieving greater intercultural understanding and is a key element in the rich cultural heritage of our continent.

Further information and ideas are available from these pages:

http://edlideas.wikispaces.com/

http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/resources/e/europeandayoflanguagess.asp

http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/edl/

http://www.theguardian.com/language-festival

The NE theme fits nicely with the **Photo contest 2014 on language learning** announced by the European Council for Modern Languages (ECML): In preparation for the Day we are launching a contest for the best photographic representation of language learning. The contest provides an opportunity to share your perspective on language learning through the language of photography. This could for example be a photo of your language class 'in action' or use a more abstract or artistic approach — all entrants are welcome. Above all, entries should reflect the enjoyment of language learning! More information about this initiative will be published on the EDL website.

http://edl.ecml.at/Home/tabid/1455/language/en-GB/Default.aspx

International Education Week (Week of 17 November 2014 nationwide) is an opportunity to promote the importance of an international dimension to the education of young people in the UK at primary and secondary levels. Familiarity with other cultures and languages are an essential part of preparing young people to work in the increasingly globalised economy.

This year the focus is on getting young people and their parents to consider a period abroad in their education/life, and getting schools to prepare young people to have the language and intercultural skills to take up opportunities, as well as to consider what opportunities they can make available to their pupils.

http://globaldimension.org.uk/calendar/event/6484