

Press Release

Over 100 million questions answered in the Language Perfect World Championships!

“Miss, I’m top in Maori...” was the cry from one student at Fitzharry’s School in Oxford, while practising for the Language Perfect World Championships 2012, a worldwide languages competition. 50 students at the school took part using not only French, German and Spanish, but also Maori, Indonesian and many other exotic and unusual languages, competing against students from around the world. The Association for Language Learning (ALL) teamed up with the New Zealand based company Language Perfect, the developers of the competition software, to run the UK league of the competition, the *ALL Language Perfect World Championships*. The intense online competition encourages pupils to learn vocabulary, verbs and common phrases from a wide range of languages. Country against country, school against school and student against student, it motivates pupils to succeed in language learning and makes it fun.

Across the world, a staggering **102,808,446 questions** were answered during this year’s competition. English language learners finished ahead of their other European counterparts for the second year running, by answering **5,821,761 questions** in the ten day competition. Australia won gold overall, followed by New Zealand with silver, then the UK with bronze. The top UK school was Colonel Frank Seely School in Nottingham with a score of **167,408**, coming 37th in the world. The top UK student was Sohini K from Wallington High School for Girls in Sutton who, with an amazing score of **21,464**, came 18th in the world. And Iroda A, from Burnholme Community College in York, came first in the world for Russian.

Elaine Roe, from Grangefield School , Stockton on Tees, said: “As I write, we’re 79th in the world... and first in French in England... we’re very proud of that! Our pupils are inspired.” Katy Hunzinger, from Cundall Manor School in North Yorkshire, said: “I’m so proud... the pupils have been really enjoying their learning.”

It is a testament to our language teachers, our schools and most of all our young language learners that UK students have accomplished so much. Proof not only that British students love languages, but that we have some of the best linguists in the world! This is the third competition of this kind on which ALL and Language Perfect have collaborated. The initiative has recently been awarded a European Language Label for the UK leg of the competition. ALL and Language Perfect are delighted to have received this recognition for innovation in language teaching and learning.

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Notes to Editors:

1. The ALL Language Perfect World Championships

An intense online competition learning vocabulary, verbs and phrases from a range of languages.

- **Main competition site** (Results, teacher and student feedback):
www.languageperfect.com/worldchamps
- **More feedback from teachers and students:** <http://languageperfectworldchamps.posterous.com/> &
www.facebook.com/pages/Language-Perfect/153922731296356
- **The top UK scores:** http://www.all-languages.org.uk/community/competitions_at_all/language_perfect_world_championships_2012
- **Grangefield School Blog:** <http://grangefieldlanguages.typepad.com/grangefield-languages/2012/05/language-perfect-championships-2012-wahooooo.html>
- **Fitzharry's School Blog:** <http://www.fitzharrys.oxon.sch.uk/index.php/whats-on/latest-news/390-lpwc2012>

2. The Association for Language Learning (ALL)

ALL is the UK-wide subject association for language teachers – of whatever language, at any level. It is run by teachers and other professionals actively involved in language learning and teaching; and exists to represent and support language teachers. www.all-languages.org.uk

3. Language Perfect

Language Perfect is a software company which produces language vocabulary software for learning and for international vocabulary competitions. Students, teachers, travellers, businesspeople, and families use this popular web-based language vocabulary tool. www.languageperfect.co.nz

4. European Language Label

Each year, the European Language Label is awarded to innovative language learning projects across Europe, rewarding new techniques in language teaching, spreading the knowledge of their existence and thereby promoting good practice. It is co-ordinated by the European Commission, but managed by the individual Member States, with national juries deciding on detailed criteria.

http://ec.europa.eu/languages/european-language-label/index_en.htm