

Press Release

Go Team GB Languages!

British schoolchildren put a phenomenal effort into the Language Perfect World Championships 2013 in May, proving yet again that they can hold their own with the best young language learners in the world.

The Language Perfect World Championships is a worldwide languages competition, which this year became the biggest online language competition in history, with students worldwide answering an astounding **172,946,801** questions over ten days. 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.

England came third in the contest, ahead of all of its European neighbours, by answering **7,018,753** questions and with an overall score of **2,248,091** points. Australia won the gold medal overall, followed by New Zealand with silver, then England with bronze.

The top schools in the UK were:

Arden School: a whopping 1233 students registered in the Championships, of whom five earned Elite Awards, six won Gold, six Silver, 23 Bronze, and 43 Credit - an incredible effort! Arden School also wins the **ALL Top School Award**, along with a year's free group membership of ALL.

Ysgol Dyffryn Taf School: 44 students registered in the Championships, of whom one earned an Elite, eight Gold, eight Silver, 14 Bronze & 11 Credit. The students averaged an amazing 2,065 points per student.

Grange Technology College: 27 students registered, of whom one earned an Elite, four gold, four Silver, four Bronze and one Credit. Students averaged a fantastic 1,550 points per student.

The top students in the UK were:

In first place, **Emily Guest** from **the Redhill Academy**, who also came top in the world for German, and wins the **ECUK Top Student Award**,

In second place, **Annabelle Seaward** from **Arden School**, and

In third place, **Antonia Wilmot** from **Bridgwater College**.

A special mention also goes to **Carys Moakes**, from **Newton Abbot College**, who came first in the world for Spanish.

"I remember writing with such pride about this huge international competition and about how well the kids at my school had done last year, yet this year I have been amazed at their determination and engagement," said Issac Greaves, a language teacher from Ormesby School in Middlesbrough: "students continued EVERYDAY in to the half term until the competition finished. Fantastic!"

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 fourth competition of this kind on which ALL and Language Perfect have collaborated, and we're very proud of the European Language Label that we were awarded in 2012 for the UK leg of the competition.

ALL and Language Perfect are also delighted to be working with the European Commission Representation in the UK in 2013. The **ALL Top School Award** and the **ECUK Top Student Award** trophies will be awarded at a special ceremony as part of the European Language Label Awards at Europe House in London on 26 September 2013.

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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 & <http://tiny.cc/LPWC2013>
- **More feedback from teachers and students:** <http://languageperfectworldchamps.posterous.com/> & www.facebook.com/pages/Language-Perfect/153922731296356
- **Grangefield School Blog:** <http://grangefieldlanguages.typepad.com/grangefield-languages/page/2/>
- **Issac Greaves' Blog:** <http://issacgreaves.eu/lpwc2013/>

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

5. European Commission Representation in the UK

The European Commission Representation in the UK is the voice of the European Commission in the UK and ensures that political, social and cultural life in the UK is understood at the European Commission's headquarters. The Representation provides information about the European Union across the UK through outlets such as public libraries, business advice centres and education services. It has offices in London, Belfast, Cardiff and Edinburgh.

http://ec.europa.eu/unitedkingdom/index_en.htm