

### Action Research Project abstract template

Project title: Using News Media and Facebook in Cross-Cultural Links
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Action Research Question: How can students' language skills be enhanced by using news media and Facebook sharing?
Target group(s): Students in upper secondary schools in Croatia and Iceland, mostly 15-to-18-year-olds.
Action plan and timeframe: from 17 November 2016 until 24 February 2017, and onwards, possibly in the form of an Erasmus+ project.
Action research tools used: Research Diary, observation of pupils' activities, work speed, choice of topics, topics shared, etc. Conversations with critical friends.
<p>Main findings: Technology needs to meet the students' criteria in order to keep their interest to improve language learning. Social media and watching TV/films without subtitles are helpful and have a big impact on language skills development. Online gaming affects language improvement.</p> <p>In Croatia, the emphasis was on the multicultural aspect of language learning, through sharing textual, visual and audio material/assignments, which engaged the students and increased their language learning.</p> <p>In Iceland, there seems to be a gender gap. The group observed consisted of 24 students, 10 girls and 14 boys. 4 girls and 1 boy quickly became inactive and submitted no or only a few assignments. As for translation assignments, boys submitted on average 4,2 out of 10 assignments and the girls 6,3 out of 10. Boys shared only slightly fewer (3,9) articles on Facebook than girls (4,7). Boys, however, shared them more quickly (mostly sports), and generally their submission rate is higher FB sharing and translations than for other assignments.</p>
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