

AUDACITY-BASED TASKS

Based on a song in French as the target language

TARGET GROUP

High school/university students (B2/C1)

CONTEXT

(Ex: in class, online etc.)

Suitable for blended learning environment

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Discriminating the muscular tension of French vowels;
- Repeating in a controlled context tensed French vowels;
- Self-assessing one's own performance;
- Pronouncing tensed French vowels in a more spontaneous and creative context.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

[Audacity](#) / necessary hardware

CONTENT

Teacher chooses a song of interest (e.g. containing some phonologically difficult sounds that he or she feels students need to master/raise awareness of).

1) Teacher explains tasks: students have to open in their computer the tool Audacity® and the audio files the teacher has sent via email or the course management platform; they have to select "play other tracks while recording" in the preferences, listen to the single words, repeat the word in the inserted silence, listen to their performance to compare with the model, redo the activity until they feel satisfied, save their recording, and send it to the teacher via email or the course management platform.

2) Teacher explains task: students have to open in their computer the tool Audacity and the audio file of the original song the teacher has sent via email or the course management platform. They have to select "play other tracks while recording" in the preferences. They then have to listen to the song several times. When they feel ready, they can sing along with the song, recording their performance on another track. They can listen to their performance; redo the activity as many times as they wish, until they are satisfied. They can then send it to the teacher via email or the course management platform. They can also keep it in their portfolio. They can also send it to their peers for peer-assessment.

3) Teacher explains task: in groups of 2 or 3, students choose 3 to 5 adjectives in the song describing one's personality and ending in -if. They use them to create a slogan on the theme: "Youth of the 21st Century". Teacher reminds the students the characteristics of a slogan: short, adheres to one's memory, repetitive in nature, rhythmic. Students use Audacity® to record their slogan (they listen for their pronunciation, the rhythm, and redo it as many times as they need). They can add music if they wish. They send it to the whole class via email or the course management platform. An electronic discussion and a vote can then be organized to choose the 3 best slogans in terms of originality, accurate pronunciation, rhythm, etc.

ASSESSMENT

EVALUATION OF STUDENTS' WORK

TEACHER SELF-EVALUATION OF THE ACTIVITY

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ADDED VALUE

(Increase in value created by the use of the ICT tool)

- Students can save all their work for future reference. Both teachers and students are able to keep track of the students' progress.
- Teachers can re-listen students' work at home and have an opportunity to assess their pronunciation more objectively.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES

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Source: [Moodle](#) (registration required)