



TILA Task Specification

Topic: Courthouse



Lifelong
Learning
Programme

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TILA Task Specification

Topic: Courthouse

Title of TILA task	Courthouse ¹		
Partner team (schools and teachers)	Einstein Lyceum (The Netherlands) Kastelli (Finland)		
Thematic description	Discussion about the innocence of a suspect in an official courthouse setting		
Target language(s)	English		
CEF level	B2/C1		
Learning objectives (linguistic, communicative, and intercultural) See the CEF and ICC "can do" statements	<p>Communicative: Learning to perform an important discussion in an official setting.</p> <p>CEF B2</p> <p>CAN present her/his own opinion, and justify opinions.</p> <p>CAN distinguish main themes from irrelevancies and asides.</p> <p>CAN ask for clarification and further explanation, and is likely to understand the answer.</p> <p>CEF C1</p> <p>CAN follow the development of a discussion -.</p> <p>CAN follow up questions by probing for more detail.</p> <p>CAN reformulate questions if misunderstood.</p> <p>CAN make critical remarks / express disagreement without causing offence.</p> <p>(ALTE, 61, 88)</p>		
Description of blended learning approach	Use of Youtube in OpenSim to show example videos, apart from that, everything is within the virtual world of OpenSim		
Task outcome(s)	After the discussion, the accused is either pronounced guilty or		

¹ Task developed by P. Bastian & D. Reinhardt (Master Students of Foreign Language Education at Utrecht University).

(products produced by students)	not guilty according to the jury's verdict.
Technical specifications (tools that will be used)	OpenSim (all three phases take place in the virtual environment of OpenSim)

Preparatory Phase

Description of subtask(s)	Introduction
Duration (approx.)	5-10 min
Learning objective(s)	Learning the appropriate vocabulary needed to perform an important discussion in an official setting
Environment and tools (classroom, homework, forum etc.)	In OpenSim viewing theatre, Chatterdale (Receiving useful chunk via e-mail or Skype beforehand)
Form of interaction (pair work, small groups, teacher centred)	Teacher centred
Expected outcome(s)	Understanding of the main Task

Main Phase

Description of subtask(s)	Courthouse hearing
Duration (approx.)	30-40 min
Learning objective(s)	Learning to perform an important discussion in an official setting.
Environment and tools: synchronous (e.g. OpenSim, BigBlueButton) or asynchronous (e.g. forum)	Synchronous: OpenSim
Form and organisation of telecollaborative interaction: Number and size of telecollaboration groups; other participant roles	6 students in total 1 teacher / student teachers.
Expected outcome(s)	Discussion completed: A verdict is reached. The suspect is either guilty or not guilty.

Post Phase

Description of post task	Evaluation
Duration (approx.)	5-10 min
Learning objective(s)	Learning to critically think in order to develop and alter one's own opinion
Environment and tools (classroom, homework etc.)	OpenSim
Form of interaction (pair work, small groups, teacher centred)	All participants
Expected outcome(s)	Discussion of the usefulness of simulation courthouse hearings within OpenSim and the entire OpenSim course.

Summary:

- 5/10 min preparatory phase

In this phase the students are gathered in the viewing theatre in Chatterdale, once all the students are present the main Task is introduced and an instruction video is shown. The video gives an example of how the main Task should be performed. The assignment and short wordlists from the Lawyer's English language Coursebook provided at the end of the former session are addressed again in order to provide help for the participants. General UK Jury instructions and an explanation of what happens in the Jury room is also provided.

- 30/40min main phase,

All students are asked to participate as a jury in an official courthouse hearing where the case of the suspect, kept in the police station, is treated. The case, crime scene and suspects, were introduced in the former two Tasks 3 and 4. The 2 to 3 teachers have prepared videos of the hearing and show them beforehand, one teacher is the judge, one the accuser, one the accused. After the hearing the jury is asked to move upstairs and to discuss if the accused is guilty or innocent. After 20 min they are asked to come down and pronounce a verdict. On account of their verdict the accused is either pronounced guilty or innocent.

Link to youtube video of the hearing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ETHLqLep0lk>

Instructions given to the students (in print just before the assignment) to aid the process.

- 5-10 min post phase

All students are gathered to discuss the usefulness of the main-Task performed and the entire course.

printables:

Jury instructions:

Step 1:

Who is the presiding juror, or foreperson?

Step 2: discussion

- Let everyone have a chance to speak
- Respect all opinions and viewpoints
- Review and follow the jury instructions
- Examine all the evidence
- Discuss each crime one at a time

Step 3: voting

Although jurors can take a vote as soon as they enter the jury room, it's usually best to first hear all the jurors' viewpoints and review the evidence and the law. The jurors can take a vote in any manner they want, including written ballots and raising their hands.

Step 4: verdict

A verdict must be reached: Guilty or Innocent. (within 20 minutes)

The following links should be printed (or given electronically) before the session.

Lawyer's English language Coursebook, (Helpdesk page 4 & 5, and exercise 3 on page 6)

(See the PDF file in the mail!)

General UK Jury Instructions:

<http://www.courtsni.gov.uk/en-gb/publications/usefulinformationleaflets/documents/juror%20information%20booklet/juror%20bookletnew.htm>

and for the deliberation itself: What happens in the Jury room

<http://criminal.lawyers.com/criminal-law-basics/deliberations-in-the-jury-room.html>