TILA Task Specification

Topic: School

Lifelong Learning Programme

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Topic: School

Title of TILA task	Schule (School)
Partner team (schools and teachers)	• Morven Creagh, Ursula Fenton and Genevieve Cuming(Godolphin & Latymer School; London, UK) 27 students, Year 9, age: 13-14, Level A1 • Helga Frömming (Berlage Lyceum, NL) 18 students age 13-14, Level A1
Thematic description	Students exchange information about the following questions: – Can you describe your school? – What do you wear at school and how do you like it? – Which subjects do you like? Which subjects do you dislike? Why? – How do you like German? – Can you compare your teachers? – How is your school report? – How do you want to improve? – What are your plans for the future?
Target language	German
CEF level	A2
Learning objectives (linguistic, communicative, and intercultural) See the CEF and ICC "can do" statements	To practise their writing skills – in particular their ability to write in the present and future tenses and to employ a wide range of vocabulary learnt over the course of half a term. To develop their team-working skills – as students have to work together to produce a combined response incorporating multiple opinions. To develop their reading comprehension skills – students will read responses written in German by their partners in Holland / GB. To develop their intercultural awareness – the differences between the school systems in Holland and GB.
Description of blended learning approach	Preparation in class: introduction of required means of expression to be able to talk/write about issues related to school Asynchronous telecollaboration: Forum discussion
Task outcome(s) (products produced by students)	Forum posts
Technical specifications (tools that will be used)	Moodle Forum

Preparatory Phase

Description of subtask(s)	Students learn: how to describe their school, how to use the comparative to compare subjects and teachers, how to express opinions on subjects and uniform, about school reports in Germany, how to use the future tense to how they will improve their own reports, how to say what they want to do for a living in the future.
Learning objective(s)	Learn / practise grammar points: comparative, future tense, accusative adjectival agreements. Develop spoken and written fluency. Gain insight into differences between German and British/Dutch schools.
Environment and tools (classroom, homework, forum etc.)	Classroom & homework tasks
Form of interaction (pair work, small groups, teacher centred)	Mixture of teacher-led activities, small group and pair work, as well as individually-completed tasks.
Expected outcome(s)	Students should develop their vocabulary on several aspects of the topic of school. They should learn how to use the future tense and the comparative, should become more confident with the accusative case, should develop awareness of the German school system, and be able to speak and write fluently about their school, subjects, teachers, uniform, report and future career plans.

Main Phase

Description of subtask(s)	Forum discussion: Students work in small groups and write a forum post in which they describe their school or their teachers (etc.)
Learning objective(s)	To use their knowledge to produce a fairly detailed piece of writing on the above topics – incorporating a range of opinions from their groups.
Environment and tools: synchronous (e.g. OpenSim, BigBlueButton) or asynchronous (e.g. forum)	Forum in Moodle
Form and organisation of telecollaborative interaction: Number and size of telecollaboration groups; other	Students in each country work in groups: 7 groups in each country • 7 groups with 3 or 4 students each from London (6 groups of 4 students and 1 group of 3 students) • 7 groups with 2-3 students each from Amsterdam (3 groups with 3

participant roles	students and 3 groups with 2 students) Groups from the two countries are matched by teachers (students who already know each other from previous synchronous meetings will also communication in this asynchronous communication task 27. March 2014 Students from London answer questions (see below) in their group and prepare a post with the answers of the group. The posts can also include pictures and they should include a question for the partner group in Amsterdam. 31 March 2014 Students from Amsterdam work on their replies in pairs or groups of three and post their replies to the forum
Expected outcome(s)	Forum posts and answers to posts

Post Phase

Description of post task	**Students read and discuss all forum posts** 1 April 2014 Students from London read replies from partner school, talk about the replies and about differences and similarities. Students thank their partner group for their answers (short forum posts)
Learning objective(s)	To develop their reading comprehension skills, including ability to read for the gist (there will inevitably be language used in the responses which the students who receive the response don't know). To develop their intercultural awareness – in particular the differences between the British and Dutch school systems.
Environment and tools (classroom, homework etc.)	Computer lab
Form of interaction (pair work, small groups, teacher centred)	Small groups
Expected outcome(s)	Some knowledge of the school system in the other country Awareness of similarities and differences

Worksheet:

Schule

1) Kannst du deine Schule beschreiben?
2) Was trägst du in der Schule? Wie findest du das?
3) Was lernst du gern und nicht gern? Warum?
4) Wie findest du Deutsch?
5) Kannst du deine Lehrer vergleichen?
6) Wie ist dein Schulzeugnis?
7) Wie wirst du es verbessern?
8) Was möchtest du später werden?