

January

2007

LANGUAGE

# LANGUAGE DIVERSITY IN A UNITED EUROPE

TOGETHER



Luxembourg



**“Language is a way of communication, a way of expressing feelings, emotions and also it is part of a culture, sometimes a way to integrate or to exclude.”**

Welcome - Vitajte - Vitejte - Benvenuti -  
Καλως Ηρθες - Laipni lugti - Teretulemast  
Willkommen - Bienvenue



Programme «jeunesse en action»

# Lot of Languages...only one meaning

## ENG

Hello !  
Help !  
Europe  
Dog sound  
Enjoy your meal  
Good day / morning / night

## FR

Salut !/Bonjour !  
Au secours !  
Europe  
Bon Apetit  
Bon Jour/Bon Nuit

## HU

Szia!  
Segíteseg!  
Europa  
Vau-vau  
Jò étvágyat!  
Jò napot/estét

## GR

Γεια σου!  
βοήθεια!  
Ευρώπη  
Γαβ-Γαβ  
Καλη ορεξη  
Καλημερα/Καληνυχτα

## LV

Sveiki !  
Paliga !  
Eiropa  
Vau-vau  
Labu apetiti !  
Labdien /Labrit/Arlabunakti

## EE

Tere!  
Tervist!  
Tšao!  
Appi!  
Euroopa  
Au-Au



## CZ

Ahoj, čau  
pomóc  
Evropa  
Haf haf  
Dobru chut!  
Dobry den/Dobre rano/Dobru nuc!

## IT

Salve !  
Aiuto !  
Europa  
Bau-bau  
Buon Appetito  
Buon Giorno/Buona notte

## GER

Hallo!  
Hilfe!  
Europa  
Wuf-Wuf  
Guten Appetit  
Guten morgen/tag/ Gute Nacht!

## RUS

Привет!  
Здравствуйте!  
Помогите!  
На помощь!  
Европа  
Гав-Гав  
Приятного аппетита  
Добрый день  
Доброе утро  
Спокойной ночи

## SK

Ahoj, Cau  
Pomóc  
Euròpa  
Hav hav  
Dobru chut  
Dobry den/Dobre rano/Dobru noc

# WHAT DO LUXEMBOURGISH PEOPLE THINK ABOUT OTHER EUROPEAN

## *Italy :*

The woman says that in Italy there are good food and roman culture. There are many people called by Italian names in Luxemburg. In Italy there are regional differences (Sardinia-Italy).She has a son called Lucca, like the city near Florence.

Two girls tell us that they don't know anything about Italy and his tradition.

The woman with a baby knows that Italy has boots form and there are pizza and football.

The football fan from Portougal had been in the stadium of Florence and he thinks that in Italy there are nice girls, good food.He also knows that the capital is Rome.

The salesman told us that he's always in Italy to buy wine and grappa. He thinks that Italy is a nice country and there are funny people and good food.

## *Czech Republic :*

The woman knew about the Charl's bridge, because she has been there. She was excited about the styl of the biuldings and she was open to us and told that she went there "black" without the ticket).

Other woman thought that Montenegro is the capital city of Czech Republic. Actually she has been in CZ and thinks that Prague is the most beautiful city in the world but she didn't remember that it is in Czech Reublic.

The football fan knows only about football there and nothing else.

The Salesman knows a lot and told us that there are mountins where people are going to ski, there are beautiful cities and he likes baroch buildings there (made in XVIII- XIX). He enjoed there meal, good people and good clasic music.

The salesman knows about Baltic states and the countries and also about Riga. He has never been there but he has heard that it is beautiful ex-sovient country.

## *Slovakia :*

The first woman doesn't know a lot about Slovakia and didn't say anything more.

The girls didn't know about Slovakia and mixed it with Slovenia.

The man from Pourtugal doesn't know about Slovakia anything.

The man in the wine shop thinks that there aren't a lot differences between those two countries- Slovakia and Chech Republic, but he knows about Bratislava, wich is the capital city of Slovakia.

## *Latvia :*

The woman told us that she would like to visit Latvia, because she has seen about it in TV and her mother has been there, but now she doesn't have time and money for traveling a lot.

The two girls said that they have heard about Latvia, but they didn't know where it is.

The man from Pourtugal knew about Riga, which is the capital city, and it is one of the Baltic states wich were in ex-sovient country.

## COMMENT

All in all, we can say that people know little about other European countries.

In our opinion, a youth exchange like that is for young people really important to experience. Young people are growing up in a united Europe. We should learn to see Europe as a whole, without barriers.

On the other hand we need to keep our own tradition and culture and to share it with each other. Like that we have a colourful and various Europ, where people know about each other and learned to cooperate with each outher.

This week was like a travelling through all the countries:getting to know the language,history, tradition and people.



# Intercultural evenings



## Slovak potato for 4 persons.

$\frac{3}{4}$  kg of potatos

2 eggs

1 spoon of majoran spice

2 moons of garlic

1 cup of flour

1 cup of milk

Pepper

Salt

1. grate the potatoes remove water
2. put the hot milk and mix it
3. put 5 spoons of flour
4. put the pepper, salt, majoran spice and mix
5. smash the garlic and put it in
6. put whipped eggs and mix
7. fry on the pan and make 0,5 cm thick pancakes
8. and then clean all the dishes

*BON APETITO!*



## French Songs

Dans sa maison  
un grand cerf  
Regardait par la  
fenêtre

Un lapin venir à  
lui

Et crier ainsi :

- "Cerf cerf !

Ouvre moi !

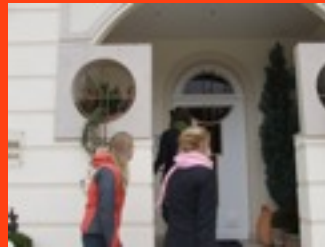
Ou le chasseur

me tuera !"

- "Lapin lapin

Un éléphant  
Qui se balançait  
Tout doucement  
Dans la forêt  
Il avait sur son dos  
Un petit perroquet  
Qui s'appe lai Jacquot  
Et qui buvait du lait.....

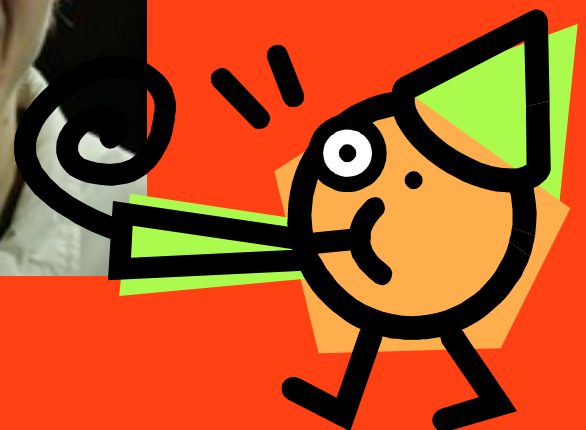
# INTERVIEW IN DIEKIRCH



Work group nr.4 (Lucia, Hana, Chiara, Janis) in Diekirch. We asked about 40 people in Diekirch, if they like to live or to be in the city and what is the best thing about it. Most of them did not give an answer or could not understand english and german. But approximately 15 people reacted positively and everyone said that they like the city. The most common things they mentioned as the best in the town were the calmness and the positive atmosphere. Other things were mentioned - the women over here, the architecture, the school, the disco, cafes and shops, the park. The largest part of the people seemed to be disturbed and did not feel well as they were asked by a bunch of foreigners. They reacted more positive to german than to english. I think that we spent a nice time and had the possibility to try communicating and speak about different topics in the group.

Janis...

Enjoyed the process of asking questions to random persons on the street. I had done such research before so I did not have any problems or boundaries. I could speak in two well known languages (english & german) so it was easier for me to communicate with the people than for the others in the group. I got an impression of the real Luxemburgish people.



# HOW WOULD YOU CHARACTERIZE YOURSELF?

*(a small research in Diekirch with local people)*

We asked ten people in Diekirch:

- 2 Portugal students
- 1 Croatian woman
- 1 Serbian woman (shop assistant)
- 1 Belgium woman (shop assistant)
- 5 Luxembourgish people

In general Luxembourgish people answered that they are hospital, friendly, open-minded, generous and happy. One elderly couple told us that they are a bit difficult and they are proud of their country. Another older man explained us that they are reserved, shy and they need more time to let somebody come closer and know them. When we asked them, they were not so keen on conversation, some did not make any response when passing by. Others tried to tell us something when we have explained them our aim.

Those living in Luxembourg but not Luxembourgish could give us independent view because they are in touch with native citizens every day. They shared with us their opinions which were different from what we heard before.

They describe Luxembourgish people as difficult and a little bit cold. There is probably a difference between the north and the south of the country.

People from the south are more opened. They can still feel some kind of barrier between them and natives.

In everyday official communication Luxembourgish seem to be very polite and kind, on the other hand they are not much opened to talk about personal issues. In our opinion and also real experience many other nations are living here, so it is difficult to meet some real Luxembourgish. Therefore they are maybe afraid of loosing their uniqueness.

## Youth Pass

“All participants who take part in a youth exchange under the Youth in Action Programme have the right to receive recognition for their participation and learning which can be used in their future lives. The Youth Pass Certificate is the instrument which has recently been developed for this purpose.”

The participants of our youth exchange “Language Diversity in a United Europe” took their chance, and were evaluating their learning process of the week. The Youth Pass is not only a certificate of their participation, but also a motivation to reflect about what all they learned though non-formal education. Michal from Slovakia thinks, that “you can learn faster about a foreign country when you are speaking with people from this country, than you read some book in school.” Alena from Czech Republic “met interesting people” who told and showed her “a lot about themselves, their countries and the most important – about the languages they are speaking. Guglielmo from Italy “came to this exchange in Diekirch convinced that in modern Europe the languages of the various countries were becoming almost useless, because of the enormous diffusion of English for every international communication.” After this week with the youngsters from 8 different countries he “learned how the European languages are not only fascinating and rich of history, but also alive and useful”.

# ? 14 questions about your language ?

1. Some emergency phrases + basic ones (how to say « Hello! », « Help », etc)
2. Alphabet (influences, origin, etc. - special idioms, letters, etc.)
3. Which language is similar to yours?
4. Do you think your language is difficult to learn ? Why ? (specialities)
5. The main influences on your language ?
6. How many people speak your language ?
7. Regional differences in your own language ?
8. Name a word that originally comes from your own language ?
9. Tell us your names in other language !
10. Can you tell us the voice of a dog ?
11. Write, how you call your country in your language ?
12. Are there political problems about your language ?
13. When did the language become official ?
14. What is the evolution process of your language ?

## FRENCH

- Au secours !=help, Salut !=hello
- è é à ç ë ô - latin
- to every other Latin languages : Italian ,Spanish
- very-very difficult to learn - pronunciation and writing is very different
- 350 000 000 people speak it - 54 countries official language ( one of the three most spoken language)
- déjà vu, baguette, croissant, camambert
- France

## Serbo - Croatian

- cyrillics and latin alphabet
- it similar to the languages in: Bulgarian, Russian, Serbian, Bosnian, Croatian
- Easy to read and write, but grammar is difficult
- Influences : Germany Turkey - due to the occupation
- 30 000 000
- vampire - « vampir »

## GREECE

- Inter-European alphabet - 28 letters - ancient
- language is not recognisable as Greek
- a bit difficult to learn - grammar complicated, due to the fact that GR is an ancient language - there are some rules that are not used anymore
- Influences : Turkey, Italy, Muslims - international words
- 10 min people - speaking GR North Italy - Turkey - Egypt
- scientific terms - « astronomy »

## HU

- Szia ! =hello Segitség !!!!=help
- 47 letters, long and short vocals , and double letters : gy, ty , ny , dzs...
- not similar with any other language, sounds like Estonian
- not clear to which language group it belongs to
- very difficult pronunciation, very difficult grammar
- was under occupation of Turkey and Germany , but we still kept our own language
- about 30 moi people
- paprika !!!
- dog « vau - vau »
- Magyarország
- It became official language in the IX . century

## LUXEMBOURG

- moyen !
- only spoken language - dialect that became official language-
- FR, German, Flammish
- Difficult language, because you need to learn tree languages : French, German and Luxemburgish
- 300 000
- « wuff »
- Lietzerbourg
- Luxemburgish became few years ago official language
- Now they will found a written Luxemburgish language

## IT

- Ciao=Hello Aiuto!!!=Help
- When "e" or "i" is after "c" or "g", the sound changes, it exists also a special sound "gl"(aglio) and "gn" (gnocchi)
- Every Latin language: French, Spanish...
- It is easy to learn, because you spell everything like it is written
- Latin has the biggest influence on it
- Different region speak different dialects, in Lazio (Roma) "romano", in Veneto (Venezia) "veneziano"...
- Spaghetti, CIAO!!!, mozzarella, Pizza, -"bau-bau"
- Italia

## LATVIA

- Hello- sveiki !
- Help- palīgā !
- Lithuanian language is similar to Latvian
- Latvian language is quite hard to learn
- about 2 million people speak Latvian
- Latvia have middle dialect, Latgalian and Livonian dialects
- Unfortunately there are no such words that come from Latvian and are used in other languages
- Latvija
- We have had the discussion about promoting the Russian language to an official state language, but it has been denied.
- The Latvian language has been established around year 1918.
- The evolution process of the Latvian language - it is one of the Indo-European languages , then it started to split from some others and belonged to the Slavo-Baltic language branch.Later Latvian and Lithuanian developed quite similar and now they are the only Baltic languages in the universe . The most of the words have similarities with the German, but the grammar is more similar to the Slavic languages

## CZECH REPUBLIC

- help - pomoc, hello - ahoj, hi - cau, good morning - dobre ranog night - dobrou noc, enjoy your meal - dobrou chut no dramatic influences, diacritics first mentioned by Jan Hus (15.cent)  
special characters : Č,Á,Ď,Ě,Í,Ň,Ó,Ř,Š,Ť,Ú,Ů,Ž
- Slovak(95% !!),Polish,Serbo chorvatián
- yes,because there are 14 different ' patterns ' how to work with nouns of 3 different genders, czech lg. Has 7 falls
- -mainly Latine (9th century), German(when Czech rep . was under the reign of Habsburk monarchy), Russian (during the tendency of admiring Russia as a Slavic center)
- Czech is spoken by 12mio. people (10 mil in the state + the rest out of it)
- The dialects can generally be divided into north/east/south/west, the east one is very similar to Slovak
- Robot (invented by a famous writer Capek), tunnelling
- Names : Marek-Mark-Marc-Marco-Marks  
Nikolas /Weihnachtsmann/, Barbora/Barbara/  
Hanka/Ann/Anna
- dog : HAF HAF HAF HAF HAF
- Česká republika
- Fortunately No political problems
- Became official approximately in 1918
- Started in 863, then relatively calm evolution, some problems when under German power, in spite of it people still had a strong will to keep the language developing

## ESTONIA

- Hello - Tere.
- Bye - Head aega.
- Help! - Appil!
- Alphabet is Latin, but with sch kind of letters like: ä ö ü.
- Finish language is similar to Estonian.
- In Estonian language for me is only one difficulty. It has 14 forms of each word.
- Main influence to Estonian language was from German and Russian languages. But right now English language makes has influence on Estonian language.
- about 1.5 million people speak Estonian.
- Difference is between people who are living in continental and at islands. But actually difference in speech.  
Skype =)
- Estonian dog barks "Au-Au!"
- Eesti
- As the same as in Latvian we have a problems with Russian people and integration to Estonian community.
- Something like 1918 but it was one of two languages in country. After year 1991 Estonian language become only one official language in Estonia

## SLOVAKIA

- Help=Pomoc, hello=ahoj,cau, good night=dobru noc,good morning=dobre rano, enjoy your meal=dobru chut, thank you=dakujem, please=prosim
- Latin alphabet with some letters with accent that makes the letter sounds softer and with some letters composed of two like ch,ie,ia,
- It is similar to Czech, Polish, Serbian, Croatian, Bulgarian, Russian, Ukrainian
- It's quite hard to learn, we have 7 ways how to say a noun and we conjugate all the verbs. We also have 3 genders.
- Latin, German, Czech, English
- 7 millions
- There are many dialects, eg. eastern, west
- We do not have such word
- Stano- Stanley; Lucia-Lucy, Lusia; Janka-Jane
- Hav hav
- Slovensko, Slovenska republika
- In Slovakia there is big community of Hungarians
- In 1843
- 863 Cyril and Metod, brothers from Solun came to Slovakia and they brought our language. In our area people wrote in Latin and Hungarian but Slovak was spoken and then in 1843 our language became official.

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