

BBC Active Languages Teachers' Email 107

## **Welcome to the 107<sup>th</sup> BBC Active newsletter**

A warm welcome to our new members. If you have any comments or feedback on the newsletter, please email us at [bbcactive.languages.admin@pearson.com](mailto:bbcactive.languages.admin@pearson.com)

The next newsletter will be sent out in November 2012.

In the meantime, please enjoy this one!

Jo

## **Contents**

### **News from BBC Active**

Great new promotion on Talk titles plus the launch of the new TALK German series.

### **National News**

Read the latest updates, news and comments about the GCSE and A-Level results and much more...

### **Events**

Find out about the Language Show Live – coming up in October – and advance notice of Language World 2013.

### **Resources**

Some ideas for using a whiteboard for MFL teaching plus links to lots of useful teaching resources.

### **Surveys and Competitions**

Find out about a new translation competition for sixth formers from the EC.

### **News from BBC Active**

Amazon are running a promotion for the next four months on all TALK products.

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Education-Languages-Books/b/ref=amb\\_link\\_162814547\\_21?ie=UTF8&node=275738&pf\\_rd\\_m=A3P5ROKL5A1OLE&pf\\_rd\\_s=left-1&pf\\_rd\\_r=1TBJX23JGSXW4EZ1RC47&pf\\_rd\\_t=101&pf\\_rd\\_p=316533227&pf\\_rd\\_i=266239](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Education-Languages-Books/b/ref=amb_link_162814547_21?ie=UTF8&node=275738&pf_rd_m=A3P5ROKL5A1OLE&pf_rd_s=left-1&pf_rd_r=1TBJX23JGSXW4EZ1RC47&pf_rd_t=101&pf_rd_p=316533227&pf_rd_i=266239)

Latest additions to the *Talk German* series

Talk German 2 Pack – available end September 2012

Building on the popularity, simplicity and straightforwardness of the highly successful Talk range, this new post-beginners course will take learners' understanding to a whole new level.

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Talk-German-Pack-Susanne-Winchester/dp/1406669814/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1347025766&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Talk-German-Pack-Susanne-Winchester/dp/1406669814/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1347025766&sr=1-1)

Talk German 1 & 2 Box Set - available end September 2012

Includes the popular Talk German 1 and the brand new Talk German 2. Featuring interactive audio and a wealth of enjoyable activities, this set will quickly develop your language skills and encourage you to make genuine progress right from the start.

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Talk-German-Box-Susanne-Winchester/dp/1406671223/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1347275608&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Talk-German-Box-Susanne-Winchester/dp/1406671223/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1347275608&sr=1-1)

Talk German Grammar – available end September 2012

The ideal way to learn German grammar, with lots of examples and activities to help you along the way.

[http://www.amazon.co.uk/Talk-German-Grammar-Mrs-Purcell/dp/140666975X/ref=sr\\_1\\_cc\\_1?s=aps&ie=UTF8&qid=1347025830&sr=1-1-catcorr](http://www.amazon.co.uk/Talk-German-Grammar-Mrs-Purcell/dp/140666975X/ref=sr_1_cc_1?s=aps&ie=UTF8&qid=1347025830&sr=1-1-catcorr)

## **National News**

New website launched for the campaign for languages

Speak to the Future – the campaign for languages – has launched a new website at [www.speaktothefuture.org](http://www.speaktothefuture.org). The new site, whose development was supported by the European Commission Representation in the UK, helps you to share your love of languages and make your pledge – what will you do to make a difference? You can also find out about the campaign objectives, read about ambassadors speaking up for languages and discover inspiring projects.

Visit Speak to the Future now at [www.speaktothefuture.org](http://www.speaktothefuture.org)

GCSE results day 2012 – updates, news and comment from the Association for Language Learning (ALL):

[http://www.all-languages.org.uk/news/news\\_list/gcse\\_results\\_day\\_2012\\_updates\\_news\\_and\\_comment](http://www.all-languages.org.uk/news/news_list/gcse_results_day_2012_updates_news_and_comment)

A-Level results day 2012 – updates, news and comment from the Association for Language Learning (ALL)

[http://www.all-languages.org.uk/news/news\\_list/alevel\\_results\\_day\\_2012\\_updates\\_news\\_and\\_comment](http://www.all-languages.org.uk/news/news_list/alevel_results_day_2012_updates_news_and_comment)

A scheme is being planned for an online Skype link-up to help people in their efforts to learn Manx Gaelic:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-isle-of-man-19424583>

An Aberdeenshire author has completed what is believed to be the first translation of the Bible's New Testament into Doric:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-north-east-orkney-shetland-19400903>

A state-funded bilingual primary school will open in Brighton this September teaching the national curriculum in both Spanish and English:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-19355147>

Teaching union the NUT says it has been inundated with members who are "baffled and quite angry" about a drop in grades in GCSE English language in Wales:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-19378888>

The Welsh government is launching a review into performance in English language in this year's GCSEs:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-19365453>

GCSE results row: students to be offered special resits in November:  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2012/aug/31/gcse-result-row-resits-offered?INTCMP=SRCH>

A deaf teacher of sign language from Newcastle has spent three weeks as a volunteer in Iran:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-19318144>

A team of Ukrainian students have developed gloves that can turn hand gestures into speech using computer technology:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-19328085>

Children in Cambridge are learning Polish in the school holidays as part of an international project to determine how children and adults learn languages:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-19279636>

The Welsh Conservatives are launching a campaign for primary school pupils to start learning a foreign language from the age of seven:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-19191228>

Bilingual children outperform children who speak only one language in problem-solving skills and creative thinking, according to a new study:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-19109883>

School children in Northern Ireland could be given the opportunity to study Ulster-Scots to GCSE or A-Level:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-18983567>

Muslims in South Asia can now buy a new device which recites the Koran in as many as 28 languages, including Urdu, Bengali and Malayalam:  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-india-18852386>

The Guardian Teacher Network has resources to help children appreciate the excitement of learning a foreign language:  
<http://teachers.guardian.co.uk/?INTCMP=SRCH>

## Events

The European Day of Languages  
26 September 2012  
<http://edl.ecml.at/>

French day for primary teachers  
29 September 2012  
Institut Français d'Écosse, 13 Randolph Crescent, Edinburgh, EH3 7TT  
<http://www.ifecosse.org.uk/CPD-for-teachers>

ALL Austrian Day  
6 October 2012  
Austrian Cultural Forum, London ([www.acflondon.org](http://www.acflondon.org))  
[http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/all\\_austrian\\_day\\_3](http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/all_austrian_day_3)

Bristol French Drama Festival: 16 March 2013.  
Training workshop: 19 October.  
University of the West of England, Bristol  
<https://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/southwest/events/2757>

Language Show Live  
The UK's largest event for people passionate about languages  
19–21 October 2012  
London Olympia  
<http://www.languageshowconnect.co.uk/lslive>

Arabic Language and Culture in Schools  
26 Oct 2012  
Dulwich College (South London)  
[http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/arabic\\_language\\_and\\_culture\\_in\\_schools](http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events-list/details/read/arabic_language_and_culture_in_schools)

SALT Annual Conference: Excellence in Practice  
3 November 2012  
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow  
[http://www.strath.ac.uk/scilt/events/otherevents/headline\\_649177\\_en.html](http://www.strath.ac.uk/scilt/events/otherevents/headline_649177_en.html)

Language World 2013  
22–23 March 2013  
Nottingham Conference Centre, Nottingham Trent University  
[http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events/language\\_world/language\\_world\\_2013](http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events/language_world/language_world_2013)

## Resources

Thanks to forum users for some of the resources listed below.

The Guardian Teacher Network English Language Teaching resources pages contain inspiring and useful ELT resources for all ages. The resources include lessons created by Guardian Weekly's Learning English specialists as well as materials created and uploaded by teachers worldwide:

<http://teachers.guardian.co.uk/subject/elt.aspx>

Key Stage 2 French Song – Je suis une pizza  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxystpPE1xU>

Link to the grade boundaries for the AQA Spanish GCSE exam:  
<http://web.aqa.org.uk/exams-office/about-results/grade-boundaries.php>

Some ideas for using a whiteboard for MFL teaching:

Put texts into textivate – <http://www.textivate.com> – to generate a variety of interactive exercises based on a text. Ideal for starters, plenaries and general exercises based on a reading passage.

Take a look at some sites mentioned at last year's SALT conference:  
<http://lmhtob.wikispaces.com/SALT+TALK+2011>

Triptico <http://www.triptico.co.uk/> is free software with some funky things to use like name selectors, timers, a word-magnets application for word order/categorisation exercises and Find 10, which could be used for "find 10 masculine words" etc.

MFL Sunderland is a site created by MFL teachers for MFL teachers. Now in its eighth year, the site is packed with over 4000 language resources for all Key Stages:

<http://www.sunderlandschools.org/mfl-sunderland/>

Some French and Spanish resources based on target language phrases for student use in class:

French: <http://taskmagic.posterous.com/picture-match-french-target-language-phrases>

Spanish: <http://taskmagic.posterous.com/picture-match-spanish-target-language-phrases-9098>

Videos and activities here on the new BBC site for primary French teaching:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/primarylanguages/french/>

A free French resource on Bradley Wiggins for Y9/10. Notes about him for display, plus true/false/not mentioned, questions, gap fill and other ideas for an instant lesson:

<http://www.frenchteacher.net/free-resources/samples/>

### **Surveys and Competitions**

MFL Speaking Competition

Closing date: 8 February 2013

<https://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/southwest/events/2763>

Pop Video Competition

Closing date: 19 April 2013

<https://www.routesintolanguages.ac.uk/southwest/events/2764>

Juvenes Translatores - EU translation competition for sixth-form students

Schools have until 20 October to register for this translation competition, which will take place on 27 November and offers the UK's best young translator the prize of a trip to Brussels.

<http://ec.europa.eu/translatores/>