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www.thelanguageof.com

Get Into French Interactive Course Wins Computing Which? Magazine Best Buy Award!



In comparison with other CD-ROM based courses, *Get Into French* came out as the Best Buy, rated 82% - stacks ahead of the nearest competition which was Eurotalk at 62%! This is what they said:

“Our expert praised *Get Into French's* ‘solid and thorough’ teaching methods and the balance of reading-based, sound-and-video-based and spoken (using a microphone) activities. The program covers a good range of common social situations (chatting in a bar, shopping, making travel arrangements and so on) in enough depth to get most people speaking conversational French with confidence. There’s no prescribed order to this BBC course but this didn’t hinder our reader-testers’ enjoyment or sense of progress.

Having fun is key to learning, but the more complex programs struggled in this area. There’s just too much going on to keep but all the most enthusiastic students engaged. On the other hand, *Get Into French's* ‘avatars’ – virtual versions of yourself that enable you to practise your French in ‘real’ situations – were praised as ‘slick and engaging’ and ‘absolutely engrossing’.

By far the best program on test is our only Best Buy, *Get into French*. Combining solid and varied teaching methods with a fun and intuitive design it ticked most of our boxes....With regular use alongside, say, evening classes, our expert reckoned an average student could develop basic conversational French in a matter of weeks”.

Please visit <http://www.getinto.com> for a sample interactive demonstration! And don't forget there is a *Get Into Spanish* interactive course too!

Revised BBC TWO Learning Zone Languages Programme Schedule Mid-April to End June 2006

There have been some changes to the schedule. The highly popular *The French Experience 1* programmes will now be repeated on the 18th April and 4th July with *The French Experience 2* on 25th April (along with *French on a Plate* and *Salut Serge!* for children).

For the many teachers who also use the popular Talk series, *Talk Greek* will be repeated on 2nd May (along with *Mediterranean Cookery: Greece, France, Italy, Spain, Turkey & Morocco*), *Talk Spanish* on 9th May (along with *Spain Inside Out* and *Work Talk: Spain*), *Talk Italian* on 16th May (along with *Italy Inside Out*, *Venice: A 2nd Hand City* and *Talk the Talk*), *Talk French* on 23rd May (along with *France Inside Out* and *Work Talk: France*), *Talk Portuguese* on 30th May (along with *Brazil Inside Out* and *Brazil 2000*), *Talk German* on 6th June (along with *Germany Inside Out* and *Work Talk: Germany*), *Real Chinese* and *China Close-Up* on 13th June, *Espana Viva* on 20th & 27th June (along with *Working with the Spanish*, *Make Spanish Your Business* and *Work Talk: Spain*).

Tuesday, 18 th April	01.00 – 06.00	<i>The French Experience 1-20; The French Experience 2 Promo</i>
Tuesday, 25 th April	01.00 – 06.00	<i>The French Experience 2 (1-10); French on a Plate: Brittany, French on a Plate: Provence & French on a Plate: Loire; Salut Serge! 1-10</i>
Tuesday, 2 nd May	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Talk Greek 1-6; Mediterranean Cookery: Greece; Mediterranean Cookery: France; Mediterranean Cookery: Italy; Mediterranean Cookery: Spain; Mediterranean Cookery: Turkey; Mediterranean Cookery: Morocco</i>
Tuesday, 9 th May	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Talk Spanish 1-6; Spain Inside Out 1-5; Work Talk: Spain</i>
Tuesday, 16 th May	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Talk Italian 1-6; Italy Inside Out 1-5; Venice: A 2nd Hand City; Talk the Talk: Compilation</i>
Tuesday, 23 rd May	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Talk French 1-6; France Inside Out 1-5; Work Talk: France</i>
Tuesday, 30 th May	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Talk Portuguese 1-6; Brazil: Inside Out 1-5; Brazil 2000: City; Brazil 2000: Farming; Brazil 2000: Work</i>
Tuesday, 6 th June	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Talk German 1-6; Germany Inside Out 1-5; Work Talk: Germany</i>
Tuesday, 13 th June	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Real Chinese 1-10; China Close Up 1-10</i>
Tuesday, 20 th June	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Espana Viva 1-12</i>
Tuesday, 27 th June	01.00 – 06.00	<i>Espana Viva 13-15; Working with the Spanish; Make Spanish Your Business 1 & 2; Work Talk: Spain</i>
Tuesday, 4 th July	01.00 – 06.00	<i>The French Experience 1-20 (subtitled)</i>

What's on at www.bbc.co.uk/languages

"Who knows the language is at home everywhere."
Dutch Proverb

- 1. The Oscars - try our fun quiz**
- 2. Holiday phrases for your mobile**
- 3. How to improve your listening skills**
- 4. French film festival**
- 5. Spanish and French news - new reports**
- 6. Languages on TV - Learning Zone and BBC Four**

1. The Oscars - try our fun quiz

The next Oscars will take place on Sunday, March 5th. Try our fun quiz to find out about the weirdest and most wonderful Oscar winning film titles in French, Spanish, German and Italian. Such as the movie "Focus Brooklyn" which won the Oscar in 1971 for best film. Eh? Oh, sorry, that was the German title for "The French Connection". And there are more cryptic translations! <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/oscar/>

2. Holiday phrases for your mobile

Going abroad? Download essential holiday phrases to your mobile now. You can access our Quick Fix phrases in French, Spanish, German, Italian and Portuguese on your mobile phone, wherever and whenever you want to. <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/mobile/>

3. How to improve your listening skills

Prepare yourself for the speed of people speaking in their own language. Learn how to apply the same listening skills you use every day in your mother tongue.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/listening/index.shtml>

4. French film festival

In March 2006, the biggest annual showcase of French cinema will be held at independent and multiplex cinemas around the UK. Don't miss a screening near you.

<http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/>

Before seeing a film, you might want to brush up your French with *French Steps*, our online course for beginners at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/lj/>

5. Spanish and French news - new reports

We offer a monthly supplement in Spanish and French for people who already know some of the language. This month's Spanish report investigates how football keeps violence under control in the streets of Columbia.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/news/index.shtml>

The French report looks at property development and rising house prices in Paris.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/news/index.shtml>

5. Languages on TV - BBC TWO Learning Zone

Learning Zone

Languages programmes are on TV throughout the night between Monday evening and Tuesday morning. Set your videos in long play mode as the complete session of programmes will last approximately 5 hours.

German

28 Mar: set video on the evening of Mon 27 Mar

0100 - 0300 Make German Your Business

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/business/>

0300 - 0330 Working with the Germans

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/forwork/beingthere/>

0330 - 0400 Eurografters Germany

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/forwork/gettingthere/>

0400 - 0500 Deutsch Plus 2

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/german/dplus/>

0500 - 0520 Cityscapes: Berlin

0520 - 0600 Talk the Talk: Compilation

Look up the full schedule: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/langtravel/>

Next Generation of Language Courses from the BBC

Thank you very much for all your responses to the questionnaire in last month's newsletter. If anyone missed it and would like to feed in, please see below.

If you are short of time, could you simply indicate whether you would like to see a second level of Talk and in which languages, and which other languages you would be interested in at first level.

We are looking into how we can improve what we offer you the tutors for your language teaching. In order to start this process we would be very grateful if you could answer a few questions to let us know what you are currently using, how we could improve it and what you would like to see from us in the future.

1. Are you using any BBC courses in your classes at the moment and if so, which ones? (Please could you indicate whether it is the book/audio, CD-ROM, or video.)
2. Is there anything you would like to see changed or added in to this course material?
3. What particular features would you like to see in a new generation of language-learning material from BBC Active Languages – both in terms of the way it is provided (e.g. book/audio/online/CD-ROM/DVD) and its approach.
4. If you are using language course material from other providers, could you tell us what it is and why you have chosen it?
5. Would you be interested in a second level of **Talk**, and, if so, in which of the following languages:
 - French
 - Spanish
 - Italian
 - German
 - Portuguese
 - Greek
 - Russian
 - Japanese
6. Would you like to see the current **Talk** range extended to any other languages, and, if so, which ones?

Thank you very much for taking the time to give us your feedback which should be directed to <mailto:debbie.marshall@pearson.com>

T&Y Kids Interactive Website for 9-11 year olds

T&Y Kids is a fun, interactive website for 9-11 year olds. There are three elements to the site - play 'Drag and Drop Body Parts' to learn about the different parts of the body. 'Constellation Search' shows what constellations are visible in our night sky (with sky maps for each month) and gives a little information about the constellations themselves. And 'Island Life' compares life on two small islands: Rathlin lying off the Antrim Coast (not far from the Mull of Kintyre) and Hallig Oland, a small island off the north German coast, close to the border with Denmark – and includes some simple German language lessons on http://www.bbc.co.uk/northernireland/schools/4_11/tykids/islandlife/school/language.shtml .

Please visit <http://www.bbc.co.uk/ni/schools/tykids> to access all three elements.

BBC World Service

Please visit <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/languages/index.shtml> for news and audio in 33 languages. And if you are interested in ELT, please visit <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/> for the latest additions to this site including getting your school a global link on <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldclass/> .

Take One Museum

Paul Rose explores British museums, uncovering hidden treasures and tales of adventure. If you're heading to the museums yourself with your children or students, you can download Paul's tours for your MP3 player.

Visit http://www.bbc.co.uk/sn/tvradio/programmes/take_one/

Remember to Visit BBC Active Languages on Stand 48 at Language World 2006

The full programme for this spring's major languages event is still available to view online at <http://www.all-languages.org.uk/events.asp>. Language World 2006 will take place from 7-8 April at the University of Manchester and includes the UK's largest exhibition of language teaching materials.

Not only are we publishing *Talk French* and *Talk Spanish* DVDs for the first time – but we are also producing new editions of *Greek Language and People*, *Japanese Language and People* and *Russian Language and People*. There are lots of other reasons why you should come and see us on stand 48 (for instance we have re-jacketed the entire Talk series of short courses with attractive new covers as well as publishing a brand new edition of *French is Fun! with Serge the Cheeky Monkey!*) – **and you will benefit too from a 30% discount if you buy or order any of our courses!**

The World's Your Oyster in 2006?

If you have not yet registered for the Association for Language Learning's Language World 2006 conference, you can get a reduction on the cost and, at the same time, give yourself a chance of winning an unusual career break.

Enter the ALL International Challenge Award, to win up to three months taking part in a development programme in Tanzania, the Gambia, Chile, India or Sri Lanka, with all expenses paid. The prize is offered by ALL and MondoChallenge, the career break specialists, and includes travel, insurance, vaccinations and board and lodging. You just need to tell us how you and your institution would benefit from this opportunity. The competition is open only to language teachers from any sector, who are ALL members, but you can join at the time of entering. There are runner-up prizes of language learning resources too.

Language World 2006 conference and exhibition will be held at the University of Manchester from April 7-8. The theme this year is Working Together and it provides a two-day programme of talks, workshops and plenary sessions from leading experts and practitioners, as well as largest UK exhibition of resources and equipment for language teaching and learning. A representative of MondoChallenge will be at Language World to talk to those interested in taking part in one of their visits. Even if you don't win a free trip, entering the competition guarantees you a reduction of 10% on the cost of all MondoChallenge programmes, and a reduction of £10 for one day's entry to Language World, or £20 for two days.

To find out more and get an application form, contact:

The Association for Language Learning

Tel: +44(0)1788 546443

Or go to

www.ALL-languages.org.uk

and follow the links to 'The Chance of a Lifetime' and 'Language World 2006.'

You can also find out more about MondoChallenge at their website:

www.mondochallenge.org

The Adult Education Languages Show 9 June 2006, Beaumanor Hall, Loughborough

Teachers in Adult Education need to be ever more flexible as they are asked to teach larger groups with diverse abilities, work towards a range of different accreditations and increase their use of new technology. This year's show will give teachers new ideas on coping with all of these issues and will focus in particular on:

- good classroom practice
- using ICT
- innovation in the delivery of language learning programmes

Managers too will be given the opportunity to learn about innovations for the language curriculum such as developments in community languages, cross-phase working, teacher training and European policy, as well as good practice to raise quality in teaching and learning.

There will be plenary sessions on:

- 'What Not To Wear' at the AE Show! Find out what's best for your teaching style and how to avoid the classic mistakes. Check out and chuck out, test your learner appeal, get a set of rules and show off your assets!' – Linda Parker, Director, Association for Language Learning.
- Lingu@net Europa – free access to thousands of resources! What's in it for you? What's in it for your learners? – Philippa Wright, European projects co-ordinator, CILT, the National Centre for Languages
- Promoting Languages in the context of the new EU multilingualism policy - Teresa Tinsley, Assistant Director (Communications and Operations), CILT, the National Centre for Languages

There will be a choice of workshops including:

- Creating vocationally relevant language teaching resources – an introduction to the Vocational Languages Resource Bank – Sharon Czudak, Language Teaching Adviser 14-19, CILT, the National Centre for Languages
- FENTO Level 4 - the Holy Grail in 2010? – Nati Knight, Head of Brasshouse Language Services, Brasshouse Language Centre, Birmingham
- Using ICT – sessions for beginners and advanced users – Henriette Harnisch, Director of Pathfinder, Networks for Excellence
- Implementing accredited work using Asset languages – Annett Hering, Leicester Adult Education
- 'Does age matter? A workshop to explore ideas and share experience of the factors that promote and hinder effective language learning – Gail Hughes, Brasshouse Centre and Chris Ball, Cheshire Network, Cheshire County Council
- Community Collaboration and Communication – The use of Moodle, Virtual Learning Environment, in Cornwall Adult Education Service – Michèle Laouénan, Cornwall
- Why does my French teacher keep speaking in French?! - Teaching in the target language with adult learners – Caroline O'Reilly, Head of Programme, Languages, Sutton College of Learning for Adults and Sonja Compton, Director of Studies, Languages and ESOL, Sutton College of Learning for Adults
- World Cup 2006 in Germany - One more reason to learn German – Karl Pfeiffer, Goethe Institut
- Keeping the group together – differentiated learning in one classroom – Susan Purcell, Language Teaching Consultant
- Cross-phase working – FE working with Primary – Martin Relph, Head of Languages, City of Wolverhampton College and Emilia Quaranta, Head of Languages, Walsall College
- TV5 Monde – Veronique Renault, French Embassy
- Latinamerican Cinema as a resource for teaching Spanish – Pelayo Molinero, Consejeria de Educacion, Embajada de Espana
- Mixing Pleasure with Business – tips on being a versatile adult language teacher in a landscape requiring increased flexibility – Janet Spavin, External Relations Manager, Loughborough College
- Community Languages – an experience of putting languages to use in the Health Service - Judith Turner, Training Manager New Cross Hospital
- Interactive learning materials – Mick Webb, Editor BBC Languages

There will also be an exhibition of teaching resources – and look out for the BBC Active Languages stand!

The conference will be hosted by Isabella Moore, Director of CILT and is organised in collaboration with ALL, the Comenius Network Centre, and the Black Country 14-19 Pathfinder.

Fee: £110 full fee, £100 CILT Direct and ALL members. To be sent an application form when it becomes available, please e-mail <mailto:conferences@cilt.org.uk> or tel: 020 7379 5101, quoting reference: 261LE0606AES

Websites for Those Interested in Portuguese Language and Culture

The following websites contain a mine of information about Portuguese (European & Brazilian) language and culture - so click away! French, Spanish, German, Italian & Czech websites have already been covered in the most recent newsletters – and these will be followed in future newsletters by Greek, Russian, Japanese and Mandarin Chinese. If you would like to see websites on any other language, please contact <mailto:tony.hammond@pearson.com>:

<http://www.hull.ac.uk/cti/langsite/portuguese.html> <http://www.canninghouse.com/>
<http://www.library.ucsb.edu/subjects/spanport/spanish.html>
<http://199.33.141.196/courses/idm2002/leung/oportugues/intro/intro.html>
<http://www.library.manchester.ac.uk/subjects/spanishportuguese/additional/useful/>
http://www.csustan.edu/Global_Affairs/data/Language-Culture-Resources/data/Portuguese/intro-wdw.html <http://www.well.com/user/ideamen/portugal.html>
<http://www.lang.ltsn.ac.uk/resources/keywordresources.aspx?keywordid=549> <http://portugal-info.net/info/useful-sites.htm> <http://www.sonia-portuguese.com/text/links.htm>
http://www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/spanish/useful_links/ <http://www.lonweb.org/link-brasilian.htm> <http://www.deltatranslator.com/links.htm>
http://www.fsu.edu/~modlang/divisions/spanish/hispanic_world.html
<http://www.humbul.ac.uk/output/headlist.php?code=GC.53&sub=portuguese>
<http://www.transparent.com/newsletter/Portuguese/index.htm>
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/hispanic/brazil/resources/brazil-culture.html>
<http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~rll/resources/portuguese/tourism.html>
<http://www.library.otago.ac.nz/subjectguides/port.php>
<http://www.library.yale.edu/wess/ibernew.html> <http://www.canninghouse.com/>
<http://www.library.ucla.edu/yrl/colls/iberian/index.html>
<http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~rll/resources/portuguese/authors.html>
<http://www.heartsandminds.org/speak/links/portlinks.htm>
<http://www2.sas.ac.uk/igrs/port/POvirtport.htm>
<http://www.unisa.ac.za/default.asp?Cmd=ViewContent&ContentID=1886>
<http://www.library.yale.edu/wess/iberianlanglit.html>
<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/mlc/olc/resources.html#portuguese>
<http://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/spanish/handbook/resources.html>
<http://www.answers.com/topic/portuguese-language>
http://www.portugal.org/tourism/south_web.shtml
<http://users.ox.ac.uk/~srp/ciberportugues.html> <http://www.brazil.org.uk/>
http://www.provincia.bz.it/cultura/bilinguismo/multilingue/link_p_e.htm
<http://www.ethnicarvest.org/peoples/languages/portuguese.htm>
<http://www.mml.cam.ac.uk/Spanish/resources/> <http://www.sacramentophcs.com/links.htm>
<http://www.thefreedictionary.com/Portuguese>
<http://www.angloportuguesesociety.org.uk/index.cfm?sector=home&page=home>
<http://babel.uoregon.edu/yamada/guides/portuguese.html> <http://www.lonweb.org/link-brasilian.htm> <http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/central/port.html> <http://links-guide.ru/sprachen/romanistik/portuguese-language.html>
<http://www.infoplease.com/ce6/society/A0839850.html> <http://www.ku.edu/~brasilis/resos.html>
<http://www.escapeartist.com/media11/media11.htm>
<http://www.rdn.ac.uk/alert/viewer.cgi?rss=http://www.humbul.ac.uk/output/RSS/portuguese.xml> <http://www.limiar.org/brazil/links.html> <http://portugal.embassy-uk.co.uk/>
http://www.suite101.com/topic_page.cfm/10455/3067
<http://www.libraries.psu.edu/artshumanities/romance/Portlinks.html>
<http://polyglot.lss.wisc.edu/lss/lang/portuguese.html> <http://www.maui.net/~makule/port.html>

<http://www.portugal.gov.pt/Portal/EN/Portugal/Cultura/>
http://www.slipcue.com/music/international/lusophone/luso_portugal.html
<http://www.language-learning-advisor.com/portuguese-language-resources.html>
<http://www.languages.salford.ac.uk/portuguese/language.php>
http://www.languages.umd.edu/minicenter/VRC/portugal/port_links_body.htm
<http://toby.library.ubc.ca/subjects/subjpage1.cfm?id=768>
<http://www.bl.uk/collections/westeuropean/relate.html>
<http://www.career.uconn.edu/majors/Portuguese.html>
<http://library.stmarytx.edu/acadlib/subject/languages/portper.htm>
<http://www.nationsonline.org/oneworld/portugal.htm> http://www.portuguese-chamber.org.uk/html/useful_links.html

Websites for Those Interested in Arabic Language and Culture

<http://cecilmarie.web.prw.net/arabworld/> <http://www.libraries.iub.edu/index.php?pageId=364>
<http://www.fsu.edu/~modlang/divisions/arabic/links.html> <http://www.uga.edu/islam/Arabic.html>
<http://ucblibraries.colorado.edu/research/subjectguides/arabic/webportals.htm> <http://links-guide.ru/sprachen/afrikanistik/arabic-index.html> <http://swem.wm.edu/resources/subject-guides/arabic-studies.cfm> http://arabworld.nitle.org/introduction.php?module_id=1
<http://www.al-bab.com/arab/language/lang.htm> <http://www.lonweb.org/link-lebanese%20arabic.htm> http://babel.uoregon.edu/YLC/selfstudy/arab_lang.html
http://arabworld.nitle.org/links.php?module_id=1
<http://www.library.yale.edu/neareast/neareastern10.html>
<http://www.ou.edu/mideast/country/syria.htm> <http://www.hull.ac.uk/cti/langsite/mideast.html>
<http://www.al-bab.com/arab/background/berber.htm>
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/amed/saudiArabia/resources/saudiArabia-culture.html>
<http://www.arij.org/sites/index.htm> http://www.arab.net/magic_carpet/global.html
http://www.middle-east-pages.com/cgi-bin/build-search?me/Society_and_Culture/Local_Culture+
http://www.arabick12.org/teaching_materials/links.htm
<http://www.library.yale.edu/Internet/neareastern.html> http://answering-islam.org.uk/L_islamic.html <http://www.library.ex.ac.uk/internet/arabic.html>
<http://inside.bard.edu/blrc/arabic/> <http://www.muslimheritage.com/>
http://ssgdoc.bibliothek.uni-halle.de/vlib/ssgfi/subject/almisbah_ssg04010203_on_en.html
<http://www.ruf.rice.edu/~lrc/links/arab.html>
<http://www.lang.ltsn.ac.uk/resources/keywordresources.aspx?keywordID=513>
<http://www.las.ac.uk/resources/keywordresources.aspx?keywordid=346>
<http://www.unt.edu/fllc/languages/arabic/culture.htm> <http://www.ibn-rushd.org/English/links.htm>
http://www.albawaba.com/en/webguide/&action=search&wc_id=24
<http://isanet.org/mesassoc/links.htm> <http://www.albany.edu/history/middle-east/culture.htm>
<http://www.asfory.com/> <http://www.class.uh.edu/mcl/arabic/links.htm>
<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/curriculum/lang/links/arabic.htm>
<http://www.wabashcenter.wabash.edu/internet/islam.htm>
<http://www.lamp.ac.uk/cis/pathways/pathways.html> <http://www.arab2.com/games/arabic-cross-words.htm> <http://www.mesiti.it/arabic/links.asp>
<http://www.soas.ac.uk/links/links.cfm?startrow=181¢red=2&maxrows=30>
http://www.slais.ubc.ca/courses/libr559f/04-05-wt2/portfolios/S_Eshghi/arabic.htm
<http://www.hejleh.com/countries/egypt.html> <http://pistolero.unilang.org/arabe/index.html>
<http://www.ariga.com/peacewatch/Arab.htm> <http://www.arabic-school.co.uk/london-language-links.aspx> <http://www.colby.edu/lrc/arabic.html> <http://www.epl.org/library/arab-american.html>

Starwatch - the 2006 World Cup Youth Challenge

What is Starwatch?

The World Cup is a great opportunity to engage students, particularly boys, in some stimulating activities. This marriage of sport and languages is an increasingly popular one not just in the UK, but across Europe.

Starwatch is an initiative to engage young people in the UK, Germany, Holland, Italy and the Czech Republic in language and fitness projects linked to this year's World Cup. Resource

packs are available to anyone working with students aged 12 to 18 in the UK, these are already being sent to all UK secondary schools, with additional resources available on request. There is also a competition with winners attending a Finale event in Munich in early July.

CILT, the National Centre for Languages is the UK partner in **Starwatch**, an EU-funded project which uses the World Cup to promote languages, fitness and healthy living. The project is co-ordinated by German publisher Zeitbild.

What are the goals?

We hope the initiative's link with football and the 2006 World Cup will motivate students (aged 12-18) to enjoy discovering other European languages and cultures and become more aware of the importance of their own eating and exercise habits.

What is in the resource pack?

The resource pack contains a series of fifteen 'football, nutrition and fitness' worksheets and a starwatch competition poster as well as links to the international Starwatch website <http://www.starwatch2006.net/> with competition details, key vocabulary, a language quiz and information about the featured football stars. Resource packs have been sent to all secondary schools in the UK, CILT has a very limited number of replacement packs but all files can be downloaded, see the resources area of the **Starwatch** website or visit http://www.cilt.org.uk/sport/starwatch_resources.htm.



What is the competition?

The Starwatch "Fit like your Champ" competition rewards innovative language learning, football, nutrition and fitness projects. Students choose their personal football hero and come up with a creative profile of their star to show how he or she stays fit. For example, this could include a fictional interview with the footballer or be a star profile.

Starwatch is an international competition and the projects should contain a number of the Starwatch languages – Czech, Dutch, English, German, Italian (the website has key words in all these languages, so they don't all have to be taught in your school).

The best entries will win a trip to the Starwatch final event in Munich on 4 July. The event is part of a big youth festival, which attracts around 100,000 young people and takes place during the World Cup.

For more information e-mail starwatch@cilt.org.uk

Euroquiz - Teachers' and Students' Packs

For many years The North-East Festival of Languages organised a highly successful sequence of events including full-scale regional festivals, visits to national and international festivals and Eurolinks days.

This Euroquiz was originally devised for the North East Festival of Languages and launched when these issues, connected with European awareness, came to the fore in schools where they still remain.

The quiz we offer here is a simplified and updated version of the original.

Please note: This quiz was last updated in 2003. Teachers wishing to use the quiz with students in 2004 should ensure that the answers are relevant for this year.

View the Students' Pack [here](#) – and View the Teachers' Pack [here](#)

Information from the Scotland-Russia Forum

SRF Programme April-May

We now have details of our May meeting (see below) and take this opportunity to remind you about the April meetings. After May we will not be meeting again until September - but as ever will keep you informed about other events.

Thursday 27 April

Averil King – “The Russian Landscape Painter Isaak Levitan”

Isaak Levitan (1860-1900) is famous in his homeland for his lyrical representations of the Russian countryside. Sometimes credited with introducing Impressionism into Russia, he was a great friend of Anton Chekhov. Sadly, for neither was long-lived, he and Chekhov once quarrelled bitterly, the writer satirising him mercilessly in his story *The Grasshopper*. Averil King's talk will be illustrated with slides of Levitan's paintings and copies of her book, *Isaak Levitan - Lyrical landscape* (Philip Wilson Publishers, 2004), will be available for purchase 7pm, English Speaking Union, 23 Atholl Crescent (Basement), Edinburgh.

Monday 8 May

Clem Cecil – “Moscow Under Threat”

A joint Scotland-Russia Forum / Edinburgh University School of Architecture event

In May 2004, former Times correspondent Clem Cecil co-founded MAPS (the Moscow Architecture Preservation Society: <http://www.maps-moscow.com>) to counterbalance the mass demolitions in Moscow that have transformed the city since the fall of Communism. She devotes her time to campaigning and bringing western conservation values to Russia at a critical time for the country's heritage. Moscow's current building boom is threatening its fascinating and wonderful architectural heritage – over 1,000 buildings have been demolished over the last 5 years alone, some 300 of them listed. MAPS is presently campaigning for the house of the Constructivist architect Konstantin Melnikov. Clem will come to us hotfoot from the April “Heritage at Risk” conference in Moscow. She will illustrate her talk with slides. 7pm, School of Architecture, 20 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JZ.

All welcome. No charge for members of the School of Architecture, £2 SRF members and students, £4 others (inc glass of wine after the talk). Further information: 0131 667 2432

MOSCOW SCHOOL LOOKING FOR SCOTTISH PARTNER

See below. Please contact KIRSTY McKENNA at Scottish Exec in first instance: 0131 244 4930 or Kirsty.McKenna@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are teachers and students from "A World of Knowledge" school from Moscow, Russia. Our school is specialized in studying foreign languages and English is the dominant foreign language taught at our school.

We are writing to let you know that we are particularly keen on current life and culture of Scotland. Furthermore, we are looking for a Scottish school which may be interested in direct contacts with a Russian school. Such contacts may involve sending our students to a Scottish school to practice their English and acquire new language skills. Scottish students in turn will have a good chance to come to Moscow and get lessons in Russian as well as get acquainted with Russian culture and history. It may also be rather helpful for our teachers as it will provide them with new experience.

The collaboration may be also beneficial for both sides. In case of direct school – to – school contacts the expenses of a Scottish counterpart will be reduced to the price of tickets and pocket money for students. We are ready to arrange accommodation and catering free of charge and would like to get the same conditions for our students in return. It is definitely worth mentioning that our school is a private one and it is quite modern and well equipped. The school is situated in a splendid and peaceful countryside in half an hour drive from Moscow.

We would be grateful to you if you could assist us in finding a school in Scotland that may be interested in this offer or probably inform us where to send our further inquiries. Besides, we are ready to come to Scotland at our expenses this spring to have some personal contacts.

Looking forward to your answer,

Yours faithfully,
On behalf of «A World of knowledge»
Vorobjova Larisa
(Headmaster)
Migutina Elena
(English Teacher)

Please contact us: mysuccess@mtu-net.ru, copy: mir_znaniy@mail.ru

Italiano all fioretina

9 to 28 October 2006, British Institute, Florence

Ten-day residential course for teachers of Italian from all sectors which will refresh language competence, deepen cultural awareness and provide an opportunity to develop teaching materials. €1600 (course fees and some travel costs can be covered by applying for an EU Socrates-Comenius 2.2 grant. Please visit <http://www2.britishcouncil.org/home/learning/socrates/socrates-comenius.htm> for further details). Contact <mailto:conferences@cilt.org.uk> or call 020 7379 5101 x 242/259 for more details.

Who Organises Overseas Courses for Language Teachers and is any Funding Available for Them?

The Education and Training Group of the British Council can assist with information about EU-funded language courses abroad for UK language teachers. CILT also offers courses abroad for teachers who wish to refresh their language skills; some of these courses are eligible for Comenius funding.

Education & Training Group
British Council
10 Spring Gardens
London
SW1A 2BN
Tel. 020 7930 8466, Fax. 020 7389 6347
Email: general.enquiries@britishcouncil.org
www.britishcouncil.org

CILT, the National Centre for Languages
20 Bedfordbury
London
WC2N 4LB
Tel. 020 7979 5101, Fax. Fax: 020 7379 5082
Email: info@cilt.org.uk
www.cilt.org.uk/cpd/abroad.htm

How to Obtain Information on Setting up an Exchange or Finding an Exchange Partner?

The Education & Training Group of the British Council promotes the development of an international dimension to the school curriculum and encourages and supports international partnerships between schools.

Education & Training Group

British Council
10 Spring Gardens
London
SW1A 2BN
Tel. 020 7930 8466, Fax. 020 7389 6347
Email: general.enquiries@britishcouncil.org
www.britishcouncil.org

An Invaluable Directory of Language Organizations Worldwide

If you visit the CASLT/ACPLS website at http://www.caslt.org/research/lang_world_bc.htm, you will find an invaluable directory of language organizations around the world – from the African Languages Association for South Africa to The Yukon Native language Centre!

The Language of...

If you are looking for a source for secondhand foreign language books on the Internet, for both adults and children, then visit <http://www.thelanguageof.com/>. Their other interest lies in encouraging general cultural exchange, above and beyond language. To this end they would be pleased to hear of any events which any foreign language book club, language societies or foreign national social clubs may be holding in the U.K., whether the nature of the event be literary, cinematic, musical or simply social. Please see their [Events](#) page for further details.

That's All for Now

We hope that the above information will be of real use to you. Remember that we want the E-Mail Club to provide you with the opportunity to let us know what you think about anything to do with us or language learning in general - and we look forward to hearing from you.

NB You can unsubscribe at any time

If you'd prefer not to go on receiving e-mail club newsletters from <mailto:tony.hammond@pearson.com>, please click on e-mail address with the message 'Unsubscribe' – or write to: Tony Hammond, BBC Active Languages, Strand House, 80 The Strand, London WC2R 0RL.