

Welcome to the 60th BBC Active Tutors' Club Newsletter!

It is now time for me to properly welcome all the new members from Language World – welcome to the newsletter! I do hope it is what you were expecting. Remember, if you want to change it, email me and make your suggestions. If you love it so much you want to pass it on, then you could benefit with a 50 % discount on BBCA language courses! Contact me for details.

This month sees the release of the new and updated *Get By In ...* series and starts the countdown to the CILT AE Show at Beaumanor Hall. And don't forget to keep those comments on Sueños and the French Experience coming in to Debbie at Debbie.marshall@pearson.com! As you should all know, your feedback is *always* appreciated.

Susie

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NEWS FROM BBC ACTIVE

Only 2 months to Talk 2!

We are now on the official countdown to July and the release of Talk French 2, Talk Italian 2 and Talk Spanish 2. Many of you have been emailing me for further information, so if any of you would like to receive a copy of the proposed syllabus for any of the new series, please email me at susanna.jones@pearson.com.



Get Your Students to get on with *Get By!*

The *Get By In ...* series is hitting the shops this month! Already available to [pre-order online](#), this updated, improved and beautifully illustrated all-in-one language and travel guide is perfect to start your learners on the route to getting to grips with languages.

Contains a 60-minute CD to help learners get to grips with hearing and speaking the language, whilst the book is packed with essential words, phrases and travel tips.

Available in French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish. Go to www.bbcactive.com/languages to preorder your copy today!

Did you know that ... evaluation copies of French Experience 1 and 2, Sueños 1 and 2, España Viva, Italianissimo, Buongiorno Italia and Deutsch Plus are all available for tutors who are considering adopting the courses? If you would like to trial a copy of any of the above, then simply drop me an email (susanna.jones@pearson.com) stating which course you would be interested in trialling, the name of your institution and the number of students you teach, and I will put one in the post.

NEWS FROM THE BBC

"Usage is the best language teacher." Marcus Fabius Quintilianus
The BBC Languages newsletter is now available in html! To subscribe, click here:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/yoursay/newsletter/>

New look Ma France - Pourquoi pas suivre notre cours ?

Improve or brush up your basic French with the help of Stéphane Cornicard and 24 interactive video units. We've improved popular broadband video course 'Ma France' to make it easier for you to select particular films and activities. Enjoy entertaining, short videos shot in Provence, the Alps and Lyons before practising the language with fun activities:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/>

You can now download 'Ma France' podcasts and keep them on your PC or download to your media player so you can brush up anytime, anywhere! There'll be a new podcast every week over the coming months. Try the first instalment: 'How not to get lost in France':

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/>

COMPETITION – chance to win a trip to Paris!

Fancy a free trip to the City of Light? For a chance to be whisked off to Paris by train, enter the BBC Languages competition based on the French Presidential elections before Monday May 14th.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/competition/>

Languages on TV - BBC TWO Learning Zone

Languages programmes are on TV throughout the night. Set your videos to long play mode as the complete session of programmes will last approximately 5 hours. See the full schedule:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningzone/langtravel/>

01 May: set video on the evening of Mon 30 April

05:00–05:30 Working with the Germans

05:30–06:00 Working With the Japanese

02 May: set video on the evening of Tues 01 May

02:00–04:00 GCSE Bitesize French 1

04:00–06:00 GCSE Bitesize French 2

03 May: set video on the evening of Wed 02 May

02:00–04:00 GCSE Bitesize German

08 May: set video on the evening of Mon 07 May

02:00-03:30 Talk Portuguese

03:30-06:00 Brazil Inside Out

15 May: set video on the evening of Mon 14 May

02:00-06:00 Hindi Urdu Bol Chaal

22 May: set video on the evening of Mon 21 May

02:00-04:30 Real Chinese
04:30-05:30 Ma France
05:30-06:00 Talk the Talk: Compilation

29 May: set video on the evening of Mon 28 May

02:00-03:30 Talk Spanish
03:30-06:00 Spain Inside Out

30 May: set video on the evening of Tues 29 May

02:00-04:00 Quinze Minutes Plus
04:00-06:00 Vingt Minutes

NATIONAL NEWS

ATL members concerned for non-specialists

At the ATL annual conference, concerns are expressed over how non-specialist language teachers will deliver the Government's latest language-learning proposals, with some of them being offered as little as 3 weeks training

<http://timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/education/article1620440.ece>

<http://education.independent.co.uk/news/article2426283.ece>

<http://education.independent.co.uk/schools/article2440085.ece>

hints to make it fun! <http://education.independent.co.uk/schools/article2399671.ece>

Whilst in Wales, compulsory language learning at primary level is resisted

http://www.tes.co.uk/search/story/?story_id=2366351

Dearing debated in HoL

Questions to Andrew Adonis on 23rd April focussed on Government intentions to implement the recommendations of the Dearing Report, as well as covering the Language Ladder and teacher training. You can read the debate in Lords Hansard here:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200607/ldhansrd/text/70423-0001.htm#0704231000009>

Supplementary language learning

A case study of a supplementary school that teaches pupils Turkish language, culture and history as a supplement to their mainstream education.

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/egweekly/story/0,,2048283,00.html>

How's your Mandarin these days?

A brief article on the new interest in Mandarin in schools.

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/curriculumreform/story/0,,2048318,00.html>

A longer article and an amusing correction can be found here

<http://education.guardian.co.uk/schools/story/0,,2048074,00.html>

How ever ambitious parent wants a Mandarin-speaking nanny:

http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/women/families/article1632772.ece

The need to learn Mandarin http://www.tes.co.uk/search/story/?story_id=2363935

Classics harm language learning

Contrary to popular belief, the new consensus is that learning Latin or Ancient Greek can actually harm future MFL learners...controversial!

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/main.jhtml?xml=/news/2007/04/01/nlatin01.xml>

Scottish Labour makes MFL pledge

In the battle for Scottish votes, Labour pledge to provide more MFL teachers in Scotland.

http://www.theherald.co.uk/search/display.var.1316890.0.teachers_at_the_heart_of_labour_manifesto.php

Subtlety of subtitles get them interested in MFL

One idea to 'start children early' with getting used to reading and to hearing foreign languages

http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/film/article1641010.ece

'Mummy, what comes after sechs?'

One woman's experience of the benefits and pitfalls of raising bilingual children.

http://www.tes.co.uk/search/story/?story_id=2363832

EVENTS

High culture, high passions, high hemlines...it must be Eurovision!

Get their hearts racing and their tongues wagging with the 2007 Eurovision Song Contest! Held in Helsinki following the legendary victory of the mighty Lordi in 2006, May 12th sees the main contest and all the excitement, language-learning opportunities and intercultural understanding which that entails. See <http://www.eurovision.tv/> Get in the mood for a night of songs from 42 European countries competing for the coveted title with the BBC's Quick Fix Finnish phrases: www.bbc.co.uk/languages/other/quickfix/finnish.shtml

Using PowerPoint for storytelling in the primary classroom

Wednesday 9 May 2007, Kingwood City Learning Centre, Fulham, London. A one-day hands-on course on using PowerPoint to create digital big books for Primary Language Learning. For more information or to request a booking form, please call 020 7379 5101 ext 287 or email conferences@cilt.org.uk

Core Skills for ICT

Wed 2 May and Wed 20 June 2007 with distance learning in between at CILT, the National Centre for Languages – Covent Garden, London. This course is aimed at teachers who wish to develop their skills, ideas and experiences for MFL teaching and learning across a range of basic ICT applications.

For more information or to request a booking form please contact CILT conferences on 020 7379 5101 ext 287 or email conferences@cilt.org.uk

Report on ALL West of England Branch event 2007

Helen Myers has written a report and posted some photographs of this event at the following page: http://www.all-london.org.uk/2007_west_live.htm

ALL the news from Language World

Helen Myers has posted her pictures from last month's ALL Language World event online here http://www.all-london.org.uk/2007_language_world.htm and put together a page for informal follow-up to LW sessions http://www.all-london.org.uk/2007_LW_sessions.htm.

Another tutor suggested that if you want to read up on David Graddoll's lecture on the importance of English and thus of other languages over the next 4 decades, you would do well to have a look at his book which can be downloaded here:

http://www.teachingenglish.org.uk/download/books_notes/english_next.pdf

Helen's photos from the recent Japanese conference are at http://www.all-london.org.uk/2007_japanese_conference.htm

4th International Conference on Computer Assisted Systems For Teaching & Learning Japanese (CASTEL-J)

To be held at the [University of Hawaii, Kapiolani Community College](http://www.unhawaii.edu/), August 3-5, 2007. Go to <https://skellig.kcc.hawaii.edu/castelj/registration/online.php> to sign up.

ALL London event

Following the success of the January event, ALL London Branch is planning a 'June Event', hosted by the Italian Cultural Institute on Belgrave Square and which is open to all (not just London people!). For more details, see http://www.all-london.org.uk/june_2007.htm. There is promise of lunch in the gardens and some excellent speakers.

The Power of Speech festival in Berlin

From **14 to 16 June, 2007**, the Goethe Institute and its partners invite you to „The power of speech” at the academy of arts located at Pariser Platz in **Berlin**. Read more at

<http://www.goethe.de/lhr/prj/mac/kon/enindex.htm> or [click here](#) to register for the academic convention.

And The Power of Language in Stirling

the role of languages education in promoting responsible citizens

Organised by Scottish CILT/Goethe-Institut, this takes place on **23rd May 2007** at **Stirling Management Centre, University of Stirling**. The cost of the conference will be £95 and applications should be submitted by **Friday, May 4**. For further details please contact Mandy Reeman-Clark on 01786 466294 or email amanda.reemanclark@stir.ac.uk. To download [Programme \(pdf\)](#) and [Application Form \(pdf\)](#) follow those links.

CILT Adult Education Languages Show in June

On **Friday 8th June**, **Beaumanor Hall near Loughborough** will yet again play host to the CILT Adult Education Languages Show. The full list of talks can be found along with registration details here <http://www.cilt.org.uk/cpd/306le0607ae.htm>, but don't forget there is also the wonderful exhibition of teaching resources. Come along and have a chat – I hope to see you there!

Seminar for new ITT MFL tutors

On **Thursday 10 May 2007** at **CILT, London**, from 11am - 4pm, there will be seminar presentations and discussions based around current issues in ITT including the impact of the new QTS standards and the entitlement policy for languages at Key Stage 4. Full programme outlines are available here http://www.ittmfl.org.uk/ittmfl_seminar_programmes_2007.rtf. To register, email sarah.joy@cilt.org.uk.

French Film Festival 2007

The 15th French film festival will come to an end on 6th May 2007. A series of films will be showing in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, Aberdeen, Manchester and London. For more details see <http://www.frenchfilmfestival.org.uk/>

Developing people Internationally

Understanding culture is the key to building successful international business relationships, organisations and managers. This workshop on **Thursday 3rd May, 9am 5.30pm**, at **York Associates, Peasholme House, St Saviours Place, York**, will look at policies and practices for developing all three. If you would be interested in this workshop please get in touch with Jane Smith on 07766 556906.

City of Edinburgh modern languages seminar

3rd May at **Murrayfield Stadium** – more info at <http://www.scilt.stir.ac.uk/Otherevents/Edinburghannualeseminar.htm>

Italian Art in Italian - Pittura Italiana in Italiano

Emilia Maggio will be taking a workshop for intermediate to advanced students of Italian who want to learn to understand and talk about Italian painting through the use of Italian language. To be held on **Thursday 7th June, 6:30-8:30**, at **Living English, 1st Floor, 218 Strand, WC2R 1AT**. To register, please send details of your name, address, telephone number, email address, Italian language experience, languages spoken and where you heard about this seminar, along with a cheque for £40 to: "Succeed in Spanish", 8 Dighton Road, London SW18 1AN. Tel: 0208 874 5819 M: 07976 564 501.



RESOURCES

Improve your German teaching with Prof Dr Hans-Jürgen Krumm

How can I, as a teacher of German with many years of teaching practice, change/improve my methods? How can I motivate people to learn German/to chose German as a foreign language? Prof Krumm had been answering questions like these during the third live chat within the context of *The Power of Language* on 29 March 2007. Read the results here! <http://www.goethe.de/lhr/prj/mac/en2148236.htm>

Test your knowledge and memory with the migrated-German-words game!

Click your way through and try to put the migrant words in their respective countries and to its new meaning. "Vasistdas?", "Wihaister?" you'll ask yourself or perhaps even "Is das so?".

<http://goethe.de/lhr/pro/mac/memo-spiel/index.htm>

Teaching GCSE Japanese?

The second topic in the *力Chikara* series of resources for GCSE Japanese is now available for you to download. 'School life and routines' is designed to be used when teaching the 'Education, training and employment' area of the GCSE syllabus. If you have any feedback on these for the JFLLC, please email info.language@jpf.org.uk. 'Town and social life', the third topic in the series, will be available in May 2007.

FREE EU wall maps

The European Commission has produced large-scale multilingual wall maps of Europe that show the EU member states and candidate countries for membership, as well as providing statistical data. The EU has made available 90,000 copies free of charge for schools and education services, including libraries, universities and adult education colleges. The maps can be ordered now and will be ready for immediate dispatch. Go to

<http://www.europe.org.uk/maps/> to get yours!

French fun for all

This website has been recommended as a great resource for French teachers:

<http://usinaquiz.free.fr/>

Spanish Quiz

You may or may not be aware of this Spanish quiz on the ALL website, aimed at GCSE-level students http://www.all-languages.org.uk/committee_spanish_quiz1.asp

Fun French website to put a sing in your step

A teacher-recommended website that has French disco songs with lyrics.

<http://www.comptines.net/fr/discotheque.htm>

The search for Europe

Welcome to the Odysseus Project! Hosted by the Goethe Institut, this take you on a cultural tour of Europe. Every week, they will be bringing you the voices of artists, poets and travellers from 27 countries who take you on a virtual tour of Europe - a latter-day European odyssey, a quest for Europe's identity. <http://www.goethe.de/ges/eur/prj/ody/enindex.htm>

SURVEYS, COMPETITIONS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Japanese Language Programme for High School Students

The Japan Foundation London Language Centre is offering three UK students of Japanese the opportunity to spend two weeks at the Japan Foundation Japanese Language Institute in Kansai, Japan, this summer, between **3 July and 18 July 2007**. The programme aims to offer outstanding students of Japanese language at high schools abroad the opportunity to visit Japan and to deepen their understanding of the Japanese language, culture and society. See www.jpf.org.uk/language or contact Sophie Lane at sophie.lane@JPF.ORG.UK for more information.

Global Youth Exchange Programme for Japanese students

The Japanese Embassy is currently receiving applications for the Global Youth Exchange Programme 2007, a two-week study tour of Japan that is scheduled to take place late August to early September. For further details visit: <http://www.uk.emb-japan.go.jp/en/study/gye2007.html>. The deadline is **5:00pm, Friday 4 May 2007**.

Request for case studies from CILT

CILT are in the process of updating their web pages for the European Day of Languages and would love to include examples of real activities that you have found successful. They are able to link to your school/college/uni websites, upload some resources (depending on

format) and of course display any photos you wish to send. So if you have anything which you'd like to share with colleagues across the UK please send details to the EDL team at edl@cilt.org.uk. Details of this year's resources will be available early next month at www.cilt.org.uk/edl

ALL International Challenge Competition

ALL is once again offering a member of the Association the chance to travel to somewhere they might not otherwise go, to enhance their professional skills and develop their cultural knowledge. So our challenge to you is - **challenge yourself!**

If you have an idea for a challenge involving international travel that you would love to undertake, then enter the competition today! ALL will contribute up to £2 000 towards the costs of your travel challenge which could be in the Summer of 2007 or 2008. The winner will be announced in June 2007. Entrance is restricted to language teachers who are ALL individual members - if you're not a member, you may join first and then enter. For membership information please contact Yvonne Hogben, yvonneh@all-languages.org.uk or see the ALL website <http://www.all-languages.org.uk>.

LATIN AMERICAN SPANISH WEBSITES

- BBC Mundo News website <http://news.bbc.co.uk/hi/spanish/news/>
- BBC World Service guide to Latin America <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/arts/features/latinamericanwords/index.shtml>
- Clave Magazine – a journal of Latin American Arts and Culture <http://www.lafi.org/magazine/magazine.html>
- Selected sources of Mexican and Latin American Spanish http://www.library.csustan.edu/lboyer/modern_languages/mexican.htm
- Website featuring info on Latin American film and literature and music <http://www.amautaspanish.com/amautaspanish/culture/>
- Latin American Network Information Centre <http://lanic.utexas.edu/la/region/languages/>. This website also includes useful country by country links <http://lanic.utexas.edu/la/region/k-12/>
- Latin American Database online news service <http://ladb.unm.edu/>
- A guide to Latin American newspapers and magazines on the webpage of the Latin American - Parliament http://www.parlatino.org/jornais_revistas.php?lg=en
- Links to Latin American radio stations <http://www.latinworld.com/radio/index.html>
- Dictionary of Argentinian Spanish <http://www.elcastellano.org/miyara/index.html>
- Resources on Oaxaca, featuring units for Spanish teachers and students on the people, culture, and language of Oaxaca and including a link to classroom cooking lessons <http://www.aug.edu/langlitcom/mexico/>
- Chileanisms <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Academy/4821/modismos.htm>
- General info on the languages of Latin America <http://www.elcastellano.org/america.html>
- Differences between Spanish and LA Spanish and some useful links/suggested reading can be found here <http://spanish.about.com/cs/historyofspanish/f/varieties.htm>
- More info on the different forms of Spanish spoken in different regions of Latin America http://www.omniglot.com/language/articles/latin_american_spanish.htm
- Links to all the main Latin American TV stations so you can watch them over a fast broadband connection <http://broadband-television.com/tv/spanish.html>

Do you have a language or topic you would like this feature to cover? If so, let me know on susanna.jones@pearson.com! All suggestions gratefully received. Coming Soon: Hindi websites!

What do YOU think?

We want to make this newsletter as useful as possible, so your opinions matter! What would you like to see in the newsletter? If you have any comments or feedback (good or bad!) then please let me know at susanna.jones@pearson.com. It is **your** newsletter – have your say!

NB You can [subscribe](#) at any time – it's absolutely free!

If you are reading this newsletter and are NOT yet a member of the BBC Active Language Tutors' Club, then you can contact me at susanna.jones@pearson.com with your full name and educational institution with the message – or subscribe online at <http://www.bbcactive.com/languages/tutors/emailclub.asp>.

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If you'd prefer not to go on receiving the e-mail club newsletters, please e-mail me at susanna.jones@pearson.com with your full name and educational institution with the message 'Unsubscribe' – or write to: Susie Jones, BBC Active Languages, Mezzanine, 80 Strand, London WC2R 0RL.